FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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17 June Middle East and South Asia Review

LD171317 [Editorial Report]

Israel

Raids on Lebanon — Israeli planes attacked a "terrorist" target near Sidon 17 June, scoring "accurate hits" on a command headquarters near the 'Ayn al-Hulwah refugee camp, the IDF spokesman announced in a statement reported by IDF radio. The spokesman also noted that Israeli helicopters attacked a building in the southern village of Qabrikhah earlier the same day, adding that the building was used by Hizballah members involved in attacks on the Israeli security zone.

A Voice of Lebanon radio report on the raid near Sidon cited preliminary estimates that one person was killed and seven wounded in the attack, which hit a training base belonging to Ahmad Jibril's PFLP-GC.

Relations With USSR — Negotiations have been conducted recently on a visit by senior Israeli public figures to Moscow within 2 to 3 weeks at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, Jerusalem radio revealed 17 June. The invitation applies to officials from the Labor Party, Mapam, the Communist Party (Rakah), and other left-wing parties. The disclosure in Jerusalem followed the Soviet Foreign Ministry's announcement that it has formally applied for visas to enable a Soviet consular group to visit Tel Aviv in order to tackle matters concerning the residence of Soviet citizens and the status of Soviet real estate in Israel. A Soviet spokesman cited by TASS said the visa application was made through the Netherlands Embassy in Moscow, which represents Israeli interests in the USSR. The question of the arrival of an Israeli group in Moscow on the basis of reciprocity "does not arise," he said, because Israel has no citizens or real estate in the USSR.

Regarding Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union, Jerusalem radio noted Israeli disappointment that contacts about direct flights to Israel "stalled at an advanced stage and under circumstances possibly pointing to highest level instructions from Moscow."

Rakah PRC Visit — In a Jerusalem radio interview, Rakah leader Me'ir Wilner confirmed that he has been invited to visit the PRC, noting that the last time Rakah sent a delegation to Beijing was in 1961.

Denial on Talks With Syria — The Foreign Ministry joined the prime minister's office in denying all knowledge of a reported meeting between Israeli and Syrian officials in Switzerland, Jerusalem radio noted, citing a spokesman who said such reports have no basis.

Syria

Foreign Relations — Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received visiting Iranian Revolution Guards Corps Minister Mohsen Rafiqdust and other Iranian officials 16 June for talks on bilateral relations and issues of common interest, Damascus radio reported. Syrian and Iranian officials also discussed bilateral economic cooperation during talks in Damascus the same day, IRNA noted. Tehran radio subsequently announced that Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi's planned visit to Damascus has been postponed because of the illness of his Syrian counterpart, 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm.

Al-Kasm was nevertheless among the Syrian officials who received Konstantin Katushev, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations. A SANA report on the Al-Kasm-Katushev talks contained no reference to the prime minister's illness. In another development, Damascus radio noted the arrival in Damascus of the Soviet parliamentary delegation headed by Arnold Ryuytel, deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Ministerial Resignation — Construction Minister Riyad Baghdadi must resign following a People's Assembly vote of no-confidence in him, Damascus television reported. The motion was passed after the minister's replies to questions showed his "negligence and dereliction of duty" and his responsibility for failing to tackle waste in the construction sector.

Egypt

Relations With USSR — President Husni Mubarak called for the further expansion and consolidation of bilateral relations during his 16 June meeting with the visiting Soviet parliamentary delegation headed by Arnold Ryuytel, TASS reported. Before leaving Cairo, Ryuytel said their talks focused on the need for an international peace conference, the "dangerous situation" in the Gulf, and bilateral relations, MENA noted.

Assassination Attempt Denial — An Interior Ministry source cited by MENA denied a Libyan report that an attempt has been made to assassinate Al-Nabawi Isma'il, a former interior minister.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Military Developments — A War Information Headquarters spokesman "categorically denied" Iraq shot down an Iranian F-14 over the Gulf 16 June, IRNA reported. INA had announced that an Iranian F-14 "fell into the sea" after being struck by Iraqi warplanes. In other action, IRNA and Tehran radio reported that Iraqi warplanes bombed villages in eastern Iraq on 5 and 7 June and residential districts of Kurdish areas of Iran on 13, 14, and 16 June.

PRC Denial — A PRC Foreign Ministry spokesman cited by *Xinhua* stressed China's "strict neutrality," reaffirming that the PRC does not sell arms to either side and stating that the PRC was "surprised" by U.S. allegations about Chinese arms sales to Iran. The spokesman confirmed that the PRC is studying Kuwait's request to register its merchant ships in China.

Iran

Gulf Policy — President 'Ali Khamene'i in an address to a gathering of religious figures cited by Tehran radio asserted that the great power Iran enjoys in the Gulf and Strait of Hormuz allows it to "prevent" U.S. military movements there. Iran is

today recognized as a power capable of curtailing the superpowers' movements in the world political arena, the president added. Nevertheless, a senior Gulf diplomatic source cited by London's *Daily Telegraph* said Iran has "drastically curtailed" its air activity over the Gulf shipping lanes to avoid the risk of a direct military confrontation with the United States. Iran's jets now fly almost exclusively within Iranian airspace, the source remarked.

Talks With Japan, Turkey — The Japanese foreign minister concluded his 2-day visit, terming his talks in Tehran "fruitful and positive," IRNA noted. Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati said the talks touched on Gulf security and revealed that the Japanese minister is "also against any foreign interference in the region."

In remarks at the end of his visit to Turkey cited by Tehran radio, Prime Minister Musavi stated that "important agreements" in the economic field were reached during talks that covered, among other topics, the construction of an Iranian oil pipeline through Turkish territory. Musavi added that "very useful" political discussions were also held. The Turkish prime minister, noting that the talks ended in a "completely sincere" atmosphere, said the two sides reached agreements on the resolution of border problems and regional issues.

Iraq

The Foreign Ministry under secretary met the Soviet first deputy foreign minister who arrived in Baghdad for talks on bilateral relations and the war in the Gulf, INA reported.

'Arafat Envoy To 'Secretly' Meet Mubarak

JN161647 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic
15 Jun 87 p 1

[Text] Cairo — *Al-Ra'y al-'Amm* — In an exclusive statement to *Al-Ra'y al-'Amm*, a highly-placed Egyptian source affirmed that the Palestinian leadership will send an envoy close to Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to meet with President Husni Mubarak. It has been rumored that the Palestinian figure proposed for this meeting is Hani al- Hasan, Yasir 'Arafat's political adviser. The Egyptian source affirmed that Egypt is participating in the preparations for this meeting through an Arab state, said to be Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, or Iraq. The Palestinian view of an international conference will be fully reviewed for President Husni Mubarak so that he can discuss it with U.S. President Ronald Reagan. The meeting will be held secretly, especially after a commitment by the Palestinian leadership to ban any reports on contacts with the Egyptian leadership.

Syrian-Palestinian Exchanges Reportedly Underway

NC161716 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1615 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] According to diplomatic sources in Beirut, several meetings have been held between Syrian and Palestinian military and intelligence officers in foreign capitals. Algeria and the Soviet Union are said to be mediating.

In one of these meetings, held 2 days ago in Cyprus, Abu al-Hawl [Fatah Central Committee member Hayil 'Abd al-Hamid] agreed with a high-level Syrian officer that media campaigns should be stopped. This confirms a deal concluded after the 18th PNC meeting.

The sources add that the Syrians and Palestinians have agreed to meet more often to reconcile the differences between Yasir 'Arafat and Damascus.

The meetings, the sources maintain, have embarrassed the Syrians before their allies of the Palestinian National Salvation Front and the Amal Movement, as some 'Arafat loyalists in Lebanon have leaked news of them to boost their position in Lebanon. This is true particularly in the southern suburb of Beirut and Tripoli, where they are actively rearming and reorganizing.

Ghawshah: 'Positive Atmosphere' for Unity

JN161554 Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic
15 Jun 87 pp 1, 18

[Ghassan 'Abdallah dispatch]

[Text] Damascus — Dr Samir Ghawshah, secretary general of the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front [PPSF], has affirmed to *Al-Khalij* that there is a positive atmosphere for accomplishing realistic steps to achieve Palestinian national unity. He said that this atmosphere emerged during his talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. He noticed during these talks that the Syrian leadership will accept any positive developments on the Palestinian level.

Dr Ghawshah noted that the Syrian leadership has shown principled acceptance of the PPSF's trend toward holding dialogue with Palestinian factions outside Syria. The Syrian leadership also affirmed that in light of the political results of the dialogue Syria will welcome Palestinian talks in Damascus.

Ghawshah also spoke to *Al-Khalij* about the progress of the plan of national unity which is being discussed by PNSF factions in Damascus. Ghawshah criticized the tardiness in dealing with the plan, as well as the many adjournments of meetings.

Answering a question on media reports regarding contacts between the Syrian and PLO leaderships, Ghawshah said: These contacts have been continuing for a period of time and in various forms. This will help in removing obstacles and will reflect positively on the dialogue.

On the Iraq-Iran war, Ghawshah condemned the intransigent Iran stand on efforts to end the fighting. He affirmed that the continuation of the war will serve imperialist, U.S., and Zionist interests.

Ghawshah praised the stands of countries which refused to give the U.S. Navy military facilities in the Arab Gulf, particularly Kuwait. He added that this stand will remove dangers of expanding military confrontation. He said that this war is a great help to Israel because it preoccupied regional states and peoples and prevented them from confronting the Zionist danger and the imperialist onslaught on the region and its people by wasting potentials on the battlefront.

London Paper Interviews Pro-Syria Palestinian

PM161455 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic
12 Jun 87 p 20

[Interview with Palestine National Salvation Front leadership member 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar by Thurayya 'Asi in Damascus; date not given]

[Text] *Al-Hawadith*: How would you assess the Algiers [PNC] meeting both politically and organizationally?

Abu Mayzar: Undoubtedly the Algiers meeting was different from the one held in Amman in terms of size and quality since the latter included one political view only, and also violated standing orders with regard to the quorum. Therefore it cannot be said that the Algiers meeting was similar to the Amman meeting but with an Algerian flavor, since there were differences and the proceedings in Algiers were characterized by more than one political viewpoint. Apart from organizational aspects which I do not belittle, important political developments occured, foremost among them the abrogation of the Amman agreement. The meeting adopted the idea of an international conference, clearly focusing on it and reflecting an insistence on independent representation and rejection of all forms of deputation, delegation, or participation. The adopted resolution defining relations with Egypt was based on previous sessions and was not confined to the

16th session in particular or to a defined position on the existing situation. This created a loophole which showed that some participants were inconsistent with what they previously adhered to under the Tripoli document. Also, in practical terms, the outcome of the Algiers meeting was incomplete in two basic aspects: First, there were nationalist factions and figures absent who have an effective role to play in the Palestinian movement and without whom unity cannot be completed, which reduced the value of efforts made to achieve unity of the Palestinian resistance movement. The second point is a fundamental and central one. The future of efforts made before the Algiers dialogue depends on it. Specifically, this is the question of a Palestinian-Syrian alliance, since the achievement of such an alliance on a clear and sound basis is still the main factor which could extricate the Arab liberation movement, including the Palestinian movement, from its dilemma. We have stressed, still stress, and will continue to stress the importance and necessity of correcting the Palestinian-Syrian relationship. We believe strongly in achieving a Palestinian-Syrian alliance on the grounds that it would be the starting point for destroying the objective of the U.S.-Israeli onslaught, which is aimed against the entire Arab liberation movement, especially Syria, the Palestinian revolution, and nationalist Lebanese forces.

Al-Hawadith: In the light of the joint Soviet-Syrian statement, how do you view the efforts made in Algiers to unify the resistance movement?

Abu Mayzar: As I said earlier, moving away from Syria means moving away from real confrontation in all forms. Syria is the Arab country that shoulders the burdens of national and pan-Arab strain in the Arab-Israeli conflict. It is the fundamental touchstone for any serious nationalist action, be it Lebanese, Palestinian, or Arab, in any form of confrontation. Such an action may be effective or ineffective depending on whether it moves closer to or further away from Syria. Therefore this concept was clear in President Hafiz al-Asad's historic, important, and responsible speech during the banquet with Comrade Gorbachev and Soviet leaders. In his speech President al-Asad showed commitment to the pan-Arab trust. Comrade Gorbachev also expressed this in his speech. These concepts were also stressed during bilateral talks and in the joint statement, both with regard to the concept of Arab solidarity and Syria's central and decisive role in achieving it and also with regard to unity in the Palestinian resistance movement. This was clearly strengthened by the joint statement after the talks, which was exceptionally important with regard to its meaning and timing (after the conclusion of the Algiers meeting). The statement stressed once again the need to restore the unity of the Palestinian resistance movement on a principled basis hostile to imperialism and Zionism. At the same time the statement stressed the inalienable rights of the Palestinian Arab people to return to their homes, to self-determination, and to build their independent state in accordance with UN resolutions. The statement also stressed Syria's important role represented by its principled and firm stand in confronting increasing imperialist-Zionist onslaughts on the Arabs, U.S. armed aggression against Libya, and large-scale Western, imperialist pressures on the region. And for more clarification, *Pravda*, mouthpiece of the CPSU Central Committee, published a commentary on President al-Asad's visit stressing that it constituted a distinguished event in the history of bilateral relations, that the success of any PLO program is dependent on the PLO maintaining a firm relationship with Syria, and that the Algiers meeting restored some unity to the Palestinian movement. This confirms what I said earlier in my answer to the first question, stressing that the Algiers meeting did not fully achieve Palestinian unity.

Al-Hawadith: What about the international conference?

Abu Mayzar: The answer to this question can be summed up as follows:

First: The possibility of convening an international conference is still limited even though the idea is being marketed actively and clearly. Marketing an idea is one thing. The possibility of an international conference being held is another. This is particularly so in the light of current regional and international developments, unless fundamental changes take place on the U.S. and Israeli side.

Second: The mission, role, authorities, and parties have not yet been decided.

Third: If the conference is held, Syria will constitute the cornerstone for the Arab side with regard to its stand, capability, and status. This would render a Palestinian-Syrian alliance an absolute necessity in interpreting any practical Palestinian stand toward an international conference. But if the conference is not held, Syria, with its stand and status, will remain. The Palestinian action will not dispense with it in order to continue expressing itself practically and clearly. In addition, we will of course take into account the idea of formulating a comprehensive Arab stand backing an international conference and based on the efforts of the Arabs' allies and true friends, foremost among them the Soviet Union. It must be stressed here that the conference, whether during or after the preparatory stage, if it is held, would not constitute a magic wand; a nationalist solution would not be achieved merely by convening it. Indeed, this objective will need a firm and tireless struggle and constant changes in the balance of Arab, regional, and international powers in order to create objective conditions enabling us and the Arabs to attain our objectives. This, and also the fact that Egypt is still shackled by Camp David, shows the centrality and vitality of the Syrian Arab role and the role of the Palestinian-Syrian alliance.

'Arafat Chairs PLO Executive Committee Meetings

JN161907 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1815 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Under the chairmanship of brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], the PLO Executive Committee began meetings in Baghdad this evening. In its meetings, the Executive Committee will discuss the situation of the Palestinian revolution and its latest developments. The committee will also review the situation inside the occupied homeland, and the situation of the Palestinian camps in Lebanon in light of the continuation of the siege and aggression against them. In addition, other issues and the Arab situation in general will be discussed.

Official Talks With Libyan Ministers Continue

Jallud Meets With Messaadia

LD161004 Tripoli JANA in English 0815 GMT 16 Jun 87

[All quotation marks as received]

[Excerpts] Algiers, Al Sayf [June] 16, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — In Algiers yesterday morning the Libyan Arab-Algerian unionist talks have started in the presence of Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud and Mr. Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, Politburo member and head of the Secretariat of the Algerian Front of National Liberation (FLN). [passage omitted]

These talks come to complement the steady unionist steps taken between the two countries in a bid to crystallize a unionist programme achieving the aspirations of the Libyan Arab and Algerian people, apart from embodying a historic act meeting the expectations of the masses of our Arab nation representated by unity.

Mohamed Cherif Messaadia gave a speech, at the commencement of the negotiations, welcoming Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud and his accompanying delegation. He said that this meeting is not an ordinary one because many meetings were held before it and that it has extreme significance because it combines all the institutions in both countries — political, executive and legislative.

He added: "We shall study during this meeting together matters of destiny and very important issues in all fields".

"Since the beginning of the Libyan revolution and we all look forward to reach for achieving a target that has lived in the hearts of the Arab Maghreb's masses, that is union. [sentence as received] And as we are feeling the weight of this burden and this goal, we all were cautious and have taken precautions to what might disrupt this path and block this road. We left things to ripen little by little. As both the leaderships were convinced that we have reached a stage of maturity for both countries, and on those foundations both leaders, brother Chadli Bendjedid, the secretary-general, president of the Republic, and brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Libyan revolution, in their most recent meeting have decided to establish a mixed Libyan-Algerian working group".

Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud gave a speech at the beginning of which he stressed upon the available potentials to accomplish unity between both sisterly countries. He said: "Unity is in our heart historically, since the first days of the revolution. We have found out that such a thing does not materialise just by emotion, but it materialises from deep belief in the ingredients and the outstanding values which rule the Arab people in Algeria and Libya. We always wanted that to materialise so that our saying becomes a reality. Thus we always put forward the unity issue because in it we see the real solution to our problems. Not only to solve the Arab people's problems in Jamahiriyah and Algeria alone, but the whole Arab nation". [passage omitted]

He added: "We are demanded to give example to other Arab countries. Unity is a noble and revolutionary aim".

He asserted that the issue of Arab unity had not been put forward to other Arab countries in the same way it was put for Algeria and Libya.

"The standing of the Libyan Arab people with the Algerian revolution and the respect of its will have created a credit, for all the economic and geographic elements are available for the benefit of working for unity...unity between Libya and Algeria a goal, if established, it must be open to whoever wants it.

"This cannot be accomplished all at one go amongst all Arab countries, but unity action starts between 2 countries and must not be closed. It is an honour for the Arab people in Libya and Algeria which will be the first who laid the first baton in this unionist deed. The people in both countries is qualified to come forward and lay the baton in this historic (?outgoing) deed for the credit of struggle it fought confronting colonialism in both countries.

The staff major expressed his and his accompanying delegation's happiness to what Mohamed Cherif Messaadia's speech included at the beginning of the talks in which there are many things.

"Through our monitoring of the movement of each country, we sensed, through our analysis of that, there is seriousness at this stage and that every meeting gives us hope because the Arab nation's position is grave."

Adding: "We [words indistinct] we began in every meeting to plan ahead and that has affected us greatly and has given us hope to save the Arab nation which all hostile forces have turned against".

He said: "Our putting forward and our analysis of unity with Algeria are based upon logical and objective bases because we find that the closest popular regime to us in its direction is the Algerian people and its revolution. And despite that the Arab people is one people, but due to the Algerian revolution and the struggle experience in Algeria, we saw that the only thing that constitutes a reply to defeat is the putting forward of the unity action with Algeria, which had started 16 years ago, but was given a push in the recent meeting between the brother leader and Chadli Bendjedid. And there a serious action has begun in this direction.

He said: "We see, in Jamahiriyah and Algeria that we are trying an historic deed that shakes the region and provokes the hostile powers because it is an extraordinary event. As a result, an agreement was reached with our brothers in Algeria on a practical programme that aims at pushing all into it, so that each one expresses his opinion and this great deed is enriched". He pointed out to the progress made in the step forwarding of this action of unity. Brother Mohamed Cherif Messaadia talked to journalists on his departure at the end of his most recent visit to Jamahiriyah directly on unity and clearly specified that there was a project being completed and that was the evidence of the conviction in both sisterly countries had been reached to accomplish this deed".

He explained in this respect that the colonial power was plotting conspiracies "to prevent us from meeting because they realise that this meeting will produce many things contrary to their interests. Those conspiracies were illusions and have created nonexistent fall-outs and as an evidence they had evaporated when we met our brothers in Algeria as best as can be which shows the seriousness to achieve this goal".

Staff Major Jallud stressed the importance of translating these ambitions, goals and hopes into a substantial action that will leave its marks in history as evidence of work. "This is what the [word indistinct] revolutionary will dictate in both sisterly countries. It is a confirmation of our will and our self confidence. We in Jamahiriyah and Algeria have our will and our resolution which are the bases to realise unity.

He expressed his optimism about the steps achieved "which created in us the great hope of the renaissance of the Arab nation and that we shall be the troops of such unity who will hold it and adhere to it. We would have accomplished a dream the Arab nation is looking forward to".

He said: "We fully believe and fully convinced that time has come to accomplish such project and lay the foundation of the unionist action in the Arab Maghreb and the Arab nation". He expressed his appreciation for such a meeting on such a level which means the seriousness and participation in the steps and the work to accomplish unity which has characterised this meeting, which can be evaluated as a heritage and a credit to guide us in any other unionist attempt. This brotherly meeting has regained the dignity to the Arab nation. Libya and Algeria are both qualified to regain dignity for this nation and give it hope to achieve victory over all the enemies.

Brahimi, Al-Muntasir Confer

LD161202 Algiers APS in English 1042 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Algiers, 16/6 (APS) — A working session of Algerian and Libyan executive instances was held yesterday here under the chairmanship of Mr Abdelhamid Brahimi, Political Bureau candidate member, prime minister, and Mr 'Umar al-Muntasir, secretary general of the General People's Committee. This meeting was on occasion to assess the whole works prepared by a ministerial commission headed by Mr Faysal Boudraa and Mr Fawzi al-Snakshuki.

The two delegations have confirmed their approval of the accords and the provisions of the official report signed by the end of the preliminary works.

In this regard, the two sides expressed satisfaction with the good relations between the two countries and determined the future steps to take to further consolidate the cooperation between the two countries.

Cooperation Accords Signed

LD162038 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Excerpt] We now review the dossier of Algerian-Libyan cooperation:

Algerian-Libyan talks continued today at the party headquarters between Brother Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Politburo and head of the party Central Committee Permanent Secretariat, and Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah's leadership. The talks reviewed a number of steps and programs which have already been formulated, and agreement was reached on their implementation. The two sides expressed satisfaction at their identical analytical outlooks concerning important Maghreb and Arab issues within the concept of building the Arab Maghreb and realizing its peoples' aspirations for unity.

A cooperation agreement between Algeria and the Libyan Jamahiriyah in the field of information has been signed at the Information Ministry headquarters. Algeria's signatory was Brother Bachir Rouis, alternate Politburo member and minister of information, while Dr Rajab Miftah Abu Dabbus, minister of information, culture, and revolutionary guidance, signed on behalf of Libya. The agreement stipulates deeper cooperation between the two countries' news agencies, particularly in the field of exchanging news and technical experience. The two sides stressed the need for drawing up annual programs reflecting the two sister countries' achievements in the social and economic spheres. The two sides also agreed to conclude agreements on bringing their media institutions into close association.

Mohamed Rouighi, minister of hydraulics, environment, and forests, and Muhammad Lutfi Farhat, Libya's minister of planning, signed a protocol this afternoon on establishing a joint Algerian-Libyan company for water exploration. The purpose of this company is to provide drinking water to both countries and to undertake the projects of [word indistinct].

An energy protocol was also signed today. It includes the establishment of two joint companies to research and produce energy and to study geophysics. Algeria's signatory was Belkacem Nabi, minister of energy, chemical, and petrochemical industries, while Brother Fawzi Shakshuki signed for Libya. The two sides agreed on the rate at which the capital of these two companies would be utilized.

A construction protocol was signed today on the establishment of a joint Algerian-Libyan construction company. The signing ceremony was attended by Abdelmalek Nourani, Algerian minister of regional development, urbanism, and construction, and Muhammad Lutfi Farhat, Libyan minister of planning.

As part of the Algerian-Libyan cooperation, a meeting was held today between a delegation from the National People's Assembly, led by Brother Jallud Malaika, the deputy speaker, and a delegation from the Libyan General People's Congress currently in Algiers. The two delegations studied the working papers prepared during previous meetings. [passage omitted]

Soviet Official Comments on Mubarak Meeting

NC161448 Cairo MENA in English 1420 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Cairo, June 16 (MENA) — The deputy premier of the Supreme Soviet said that his meeting with President Husni Mubarak earlier today dealt with issues pertaining to joint economic and cultural cooperation.

The Soviet official said that discussions also touched on political, regional and international problems, pointing out that the two countries stances vis-a-vis these issues are identical.

He added that the regional problems are very complicated and the situation in the area is tense.

He also said that Egypt and the Soviet Union are both in quest of solving the complicated regional problems for establishing peace which is a basic and important issue at this stage.

The Soviet official said that his country tries to help realise objectives of development in Egypt, pointing out that the two sides have potentialities to boost economic cooperation between them.

He expressed hope that fields of joint cultural cooperation as well as other domains would be increased.

In reply to a query on efforts that could be exerted by the Soviet Union for the convening of an international conference on peace in the Middle East, the Soviet official said that his country will do its utmost for holding such a conference, pointing out that the Arab states ought first to close ranks.

On Moscow's stance regarding the escalation of the Gulf war, the Soviet official urged combatants to exercise self-restraint.

Reviews Talks, Departs

NC161546 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1510 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Excerpts] Cairo, 16 Jun (MENA) — Arnold Ryuytel, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and his accompanying delegation left Cairo this afternoon at the conclusion of a 2-day visit. [passage omitted]

In a predeparture statement, Ryuytel said he had discussed with President Husni Mubarak the need to resolve the Middle East issue, convene an international peace conference, and confront obstacles to the convocation of such a conference. He said they also discussed the dangerous situation in the Gulf area, agreeing that the UN Security Council should play an effective role in halting the Iraq-Iran war and ensuring free navigation in the Gulf. He also said he had discussed bilateral relations with Egyptian officials, noting that these relations are growing steadily.

AL-AKHBAR Denounces Shamir Conference Rejection

NC170914 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2240 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Cairo, 16 Jun (MENA) — The newspaper *Al-Akhbar* has denounced Yitzhaq Shamir's rejection of the idea of holding an international conference for Middle East peace. The paper maintains that the Israeli prime minister opposes the idea and even refuses to hold a referendum in Israel to let the Israelis decide for themselves about the conference because he is aware that the majority of the Israelis would vote in favor of it.

In its Wednesday's edition, the paper says no people, irrespective of their military preparedness, should lead a life consumed by war, defense, and the fear of the unknown, their future generations haunted by the prospects of a precarious future.

Shamir, the paper says, must be aware that this is the future he and some of his Likud colleagues are choosing for the Israeli people when they decide to use fire and steel to subjugate other peoples and occupy their lands. Shamir and his Likud friends, the paper adds, are wrong to assume that power will remain a monopoly of Israel or that the Palestinians will someday peacefully resign themselves to the occupation.

Shamir, the paper asserts, thinks he is smarter than all those world leaders who increasingly approve of the international conference as a means of restoring peace to a sensitive area which threatens to explode at any moment. This is why he came forward with a new idea he thinks may replace the international conference. Shamir proposed that the conference be a regional one, confined to bilateral or multilateral talks between Tel Aviv and those Arab countries that accept such talks. Naturally, any negotiations thus conducted would take place on Israel's terms, with its occupation of Arab land and its suppression of the Arab inhabitants going onuninterrupted.

Shamir's purpose of turning the international conference into a regional one confined to Israel and the Arabs, the paper reasons, is to exclude the permanent UN Security Council members from any efforts to solve the Middle East problems. Shamir, the paper says, knows well that none of these countries would approve of the occupation of territories by force, a matter rejected by the UN Charter, as well as by international law. Shamir wants the issue to be lost in the maze of indecisive talks that can last for years on end, *Al-Akhbar* concludes.

London Paper on Mubarak Remarks to Journalists

PM161009 London AL-TADAMUN in Arabic 13 Jun 87 pp 8-13

[Unattributed report on Egyptian President Mubarak's meeting with journalists on 4 June 1987]

[Excerpts][Passage omitted] Egyptian President Husni Mubarak began his talk to media officials by dealing with domestic affairs in Egypt, especially in light of the recent successive assassination attempts against former Interior Minister Major General Hasan Abu Basha, U.S. diplomats, and journalist Makram Muhammad Ahmad, *Al-Musawwar's* chief editor. In this regard, President Mubarak said that "there is an attempt to undermine stability in

Egypt." He added: Several quarters want to attack democracy in Egypt, but we will not allow any quarter, whatever it may be, to harm the country's stability and sovereignty. [passage omitted]

With regard to mediation between Cairo and Damascus, President Mubarak said: It is not true that there is Arab mediation between Egypt and Syria. Egypt did not request any mediation with that regime, King Husayn did not mediate, and I am not holding talks with any Syrian rulers since their hands are stained with Palestinian blood and they are the cause of the devastation now affecting the Arab position. As for the story of my meeting with Al-Asad on the sidelines of the Islamic summit, I confirm that this meeting was not arranged; no other Arab president arranged it. By chance, I found myself face to face with Hafiz al-Asad and, since Arab traditions prompted me to greet him, I headed toward him and we shook hands and briefly discussed and agreed on some matters. But during the Islamic conference, I was surprised when he showed his true nature and attacked Egypt. It was really a very regrettable thing. I am sad about what Syria has become. Syria is in our hearts, but what is now happening there is something that pains every Arab; this regime is conspiring against every Arab. The regime in Syria wants to possess the Palestinian, Lebanese, and Iranian cards. Regrettably some Arab rulers are submitting to Syrian blackmail.

The Egyptian president continued talking about the regime in Syria, Syria's relationship with Moscow, and the Syrian role in Lebanon. Then he talked about reports of an Iraqi-Syrian reconciliation and a summit between President Hafiz al-Asad and President Saddam Husayn. As for the relationship between the Syrian regime and the Kremlin, Mubarak said: Syria is now suffering from a weakness in relations with Moscow. At his recent meeting with Al-Asad, Gorbachev clearly said that there can be no substitute for Egypt and its role and an international conference cannot be held without Egypt's participation. Our information indicates that the Soviets are suspicious about Al-Asad's relations with the United States and Israel. Moscow also knows about deals between Syria and Tel Aviv and between Syria and Washington.

As for the Syrian role in Lebanon, the Egyptian president said: I am supplying information and confirming that it was Hafiz al-Asad who delayed Israel's withdrawal from southern Lebanon. I directly asked Peres: Why does Israel not withdraw from southern Lebanon? He told me Syria was the reason. He said: During our contacts with the Syrians, we demanded in return for withdrawal from southern Lebanon a guarantee that no terrorist acts would be launched from the south against northern Israel, but Syria refused.

Syria refused, not because it was in favor of fedayeen action or a popular liberation war, but because Syria did not want an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon simply because Israel's withdrawal from the south would have meant that the Syrian presence would become illegitimate. On this basis, Al-Asad informed Murphy that he could not guarantee safe borders and thus did not want an Israeli withdrawal before the situation in Lebanon was organized. Israel, as well as the U.S. Administration, informed me of this. They told me: You are putting pressure on Israel and the United States to achieve an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon; Israel was ready to withdraw but Syria rejected the withdrawal.

"This regime is conspiring against all the Arabs and, despite this, it continues to talk of struggle, revolution, and support for the Palestinian people".

The Egyptian president then dealt with reports of an Iraqi reconciliation with Syria and a summit between President Saddam Husayn and President Hafiz al-Asad. In this regard, Mubarak said: We have confirmed reports that a Syrian-Iraqi summit was held on the Syrian-Jordanian borders under King Husayn's sponsorship. The meeting between Saddam Husayn and Hafiz al-Asad lasted 3 hours without interruption, but it was dominated by disputes and did not result in anything. Hafiz al-Asad wanted immediate unity between Syria and Iraq in return for solving the problems between the two countries. How can this happen? What unity can be established between two conflicting regimes? President Saddam Husayn rejected this and confirmed that no unity will occur between Syria and Iraq. This is an impossible question. The Syrian and Iraqi foreign ministers met for 7 hours, during which disputes and clashes continued and nothing was agreed.

Concerning the relationship between Egypt and the PLO, after the crisis that occured on the evening of the 18th PNC session's meeting in Algiers, the Egyptian president said: The climate is now calm with the PLO and the Palestinians. Despite all this, Egypt will not betray or sell the Palestinians. However, I will not now go back on my decision to close PLO offices in Egypt. The offices will not be opened now, regardless of Arab mediation and PLO interpretations, for a simple reason; namely, that I warned them [the PLO] before the PNC convened in Algiers. I told 'Arafat: I do not demand anything from you but I will not allow Egypt to be harmed. Their resolution on Egypt included contradictions: The first clause praised Egypt. The second talked of the 16th PNC session, which declared that dealings with Egypt will be maintained via Egyptian patriotic forces and as Egypt moves away from Camp David. The third clause dealt with Palestinian principles. This is totally unacceptable since there are no patriotic and unpatriotic forces in Egypt. The opposition and the regime are both patriotic forces; the PLO will not be able to buy a single Egyptian. This is playing with fire and we do not accept it. Then they turned to Camp David. This was repugnant and unacceptable. Where is Camp David now? Camp David was completely buried. One part of it was Egyptian, and this was implemented and the Israelis withdrew from Sinai. Another part concerned the Palestinians, and we froze this because those concerned rejected it. So talk about Camp David is unacceptable. They are also talking about Palestinian principles. In fact, Egypt is in favor of a state [for them] and supports their right to self-determination, as it supports the PLO. It is painful that they should deal with Egypt in such a manner. I warned 'Arafat, whom I have confidence in, but he was helpless. Regrettably Egypt, which supported and protected them and did not raise a hand against any Palestinian, received this kind of treatment. But the PNC talked of struggle relations with Syria, which massacred the Palestinians at Tall al-Za'tar and the camps, humiliated the Palestinians, and plotted against the people and the cause. This is both strange and unacceptable. Algeria exploited the PLO during the PNC session. The Polisario delegation

participated and its president delivered a speech at the PNC session that resulted in their losing Hassan II. Algeria exploited the convening of the PNC for internal purposes. It was really regrettable.

About relations between Egypt and Algeria the Egyptian president said: Algeria tried to interfere in Egypt's internal affairs and Egypt rejected that. [passage omitted]

President Mubarak then dealt with the issue of the international conference to solve the Middle East crisis and the contacts being made in this regard, including contacts between Jordan and Israel. On this topic, the Egyptian president said: The story of the international conference is a long one. I will explain everything, the information, and the reports. The international conference is subject to the will of the two superpowers, the United States and the USSR. If a solution is reached to the problem of disarmament between the two leading countries, the conference will be held. Our expectations and U.S. and Soviet plans are to hold the conference in December of this year, but Israel is the obstacle; the PLO constitutes an obstacle as well. Here are the details: At the beginning I was concerned that the Palestinians might miss this opportunity. If the PLO does not deal with the situation both realistically and flexibly, it will miss the bus. We know and all the Arab states know that the international conference will be held on the basis of Resolutions 242 and 338. When Peres came to Alexandria in September 1986, I asked him about a solution to this dilemma. I told him: The PLO could not recognize Security Council Resolution 242, but the conference is based on 242. Would Israel agree to the PLO recognizing Resolution 242 on conditions to be included in the recognition decision itself? He said: Yes. The United States agreed to the idea but 'Arafat rejected it and, consequently, the opportunity was lost. Two problems for the conference have now emerged: The abrogation of the Amman accord between Jordan and the PLO, and the PNC decision in Algiers stressing the need for PLO participation in an international conference as an independent delegation. This will not happen because the United States rejects PLO participation. It is also impossible for Israel to agree. The PLO says it has a guarantee from the Soviet Union that it will participate as an independent delegation. My information indicates that this is not true. The Soviets have not offered such a guarantee. The PLO might have misunderstood matters. Syria also rejects PLO participation as an independent delegation. The Syrians informed the Americans and Israel of this. This is the information. Matters have become complicated. Despite the crisis with the PLO, last week I sent a message to Yasir 'Arafat warning him about what is happening at the Arab, Israeli, and U.S. levels. I told him: I fear you may run out of time. I hope 'Arafat will respond. For my part, I am making efforts together with King Husayn, who has responded but does not know what the PLO specifically wants. If the PLO does not maneuver with Jordan according to the abrogated Amman accord or according to a new formula guaranteeing joint Jordanian-Palestinian representation, such an international conference will not be held, and, if it is held, will be held without the PLO. In this case, we will reach no solution and the region would then be swept by waves of terrorism and counterterrorism. Egypt is with the PLO and with its right to self-determination. Indeed, Egypt is the only Arab country in favor of a Palestinian state. This is true and not just a matter of proclaiming stands. Our official information confirms that all Arab capitals are against an independent Palestinian state. This is my information from other Arab leaders with whom my contacts are consistent. This also is the official information of both the U.S. Administration and the Soviet Union. Moscow told us Syria does not want a Palestinian state or PLO participation in an international conference. Yasir 'Arafat must wake up before he misses the bus since plots against the PLO are being conceived internationally and by Arab parties. We have informed and warned him and, despite the hurt, we are still hopeful that the PLO will reconsider assessing its calculations.

On Jordanian-Israeli contacts, President Mubarak said: Now I have reached the point that you are asking me about. Is it true that Jordanian-Israeli contacts were and are still being made? Of course, in addition to Syrian contacts with Israel and the United States? I would say, and this is not for publication: Yes, there are Jordanian-Israeli contacts that Arab capitals, the United States, and the Soviet Union know of. My method is based on openness and not embarrassing anyone. We here are observing these contacts. In fact King Husayn told me about them and I told him I already knew through Israel, the United States, and the Soviets. [passage omitted]

On relations with the United States and Israel, President Mubarak said: Before my recent visit to Washington our relations with the United States were tense. The press attacked us, turned over a new leaf with Peres, and received some Israeli ministers. I received reports from Washington that the tone of the U.S. media was against Egypt. After relations with Peres improved, I received a message from him saying secret information had been sent to the United States to launch a media campaign against Egypt. When the situation changed, Peres sent new instructions to the U.S. media that the situation had changed and that Egypt was working for peace. Within just 2 days, the tone of the U.S. media changed. You talk of a special relationship between Egypt and the United States. Yes, there are special relations, but these are not subservient. We do not revolve in the U.S. orbit. Egypt has never sold its will. Egypt refused to give the United States any military bases and this resulted in a crisis, but I insisted on my refusal. Some people in Egypt demand that we grant the United States bases to solve our economic crises, but I will not allow foreign bases in Egypt. My task now is to build Egypt and the infrastructure, prepare its Army, and strengthen the democratic process. After this, we will talk differently. The opposition criticizes Egyptian-U.S. [military] maneuvers. I say such maneuvers do not violate Egyptian sovereignty at all. During the era of President 'Abd al-Nasir, joint maneuvers were conducted with the Soviets but we did not hear such an uproar. So why this uproar now? It is I who benefit from such maneuvers more than the United States. [passage omitted]

President Mubarak raised a question about Pakistan and Israel and the nuclear bomb. He said: Do you know Pakistani President Ziaul Haq sought my assistance to mediate between him and Israel? He told me: I trust Egypt and its patriotism. We want to exploit the Egyptian-Israeli relationship in the interest of the Arabs and Islam. I told him: How? I am ready.

He said: Our information indicates that Israel is planning to attack the Pakistani nuclear reactor, has maps and plans, and is

ready to carry out an operation in exactly the same manner as it did against Iraq. I want you, Mr President, to contact and assure them that I do not possess a nuclear bomb or threaten Israel. Just imagine: Pakistan, thousands of kilometers away, fears an Israeli attack. Now some Arabs are demanding I abrogate Camp David. I actually contacted Peres and put pressure on him, indeed threatened him, since Egypt will not allow any Israeli attack to be launched against Pakistan. Peres promised me that no attack will be launched against Pakistan. This is Israel, but the Palestinian leaders and some Arab leaders want me to abrogate the Camp David treaty concluded with it so that a war could begin and Egypt could return to its crises. Once again I say: Camp David has died but I will not abrogate the treaty. [passage omitted]

On the Egyptian role in the Gulf, President Mubarak said: Some ask why does Egypt not define its position toward the U.S. fleets in the Gulf which threaten the region? I would simply say I coordinate with the leaders of the Gulf states. They are asking for an Egyptian role and I am ready, but they have not yet reached a defined formula. Some Gulf states have not yet defined their positions regarding U.S. fleets. We in Egypt are still waiting for the Gulf position to be defined. After that I am ready. I do not want to embarrass them, indeed I want to help them.

Source Denies Mediation Between Israel, Pakistan

NC151402 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1240 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Text] Cairo, 15 Jun (MENA) — An official source today described as unfounded a report in a recent edition of the London-based magazine *Al-Tadamun* on President Husni Mubarak's 4 June meeting with Egyptian journalists. The source said that the report was laden with lies and distortions aimed at misrepresenting facts and smearing friendly countries.

Meanwhile, Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif said Arab papers appearing the day after the 4 June meeting had carried full reports on the President's remarks and that the *Al-Tadamun* article was pure fiction. Al-Sharif also denied recent allegations by the Kuwaiti paper *Al-Qabas* that Egypt had mediated between Israel and Pakistan, ensuring that Israel would not attack Pakistani nuclear facilities. The report, he said, is totally groundless.

Shots Reportedly Fired at Home of Former Minister

NC161111 (Clandestine) Voice of the People in Arabic to Lebanon 1030 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Egyptian police in Cairo have stated that shots were fired at the city residence of former Interior Minister Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il last night. According to reports from the Egyptian capital, the police arrested an unidentified person who fired the shots while driving a taxi.

Assassination Attempt Denied

NC161836 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1825 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Cairo, 16 Jun (MENA) — A responsible source at the Interior Ministry today denied that any attempt had been made to assassinate former Interior Minister Al-Nabawi Isma'il, describing such claims as utter fiction.

The Libyan news agency claims an armed group had attacked Al-Nabawi Isma'il's home in an attempt to assassinate him.

Israeli Ambassador Receives Death Threat

JN161937 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 16 Jun 87 p 1

[Text] Cairo — Egyptian security services have begun large-scale security investigations into people who work at the Israeli Embassy in Cairo after Israeli Ambassador Moshe Sason found a threatening letter in his private car. The letter, which threatens the ambassador with death, was found in the back seat of the car, which always receives intensive security checks. The letter was written in Hebrew and warned the ambassador that the hand able to leave this letter is also able to place a bomb under the back seat. The ambassador had not been out of his residence for 3 weeks.

The Israeli security apparatus, which protects the embassy and which includes a number of U.S. experts, panicked because the letter revealed many loopholes in measures to protect the ambassador.

The ambassador sent a copy of this letter with a formal protest to the Egyptian Foreign Ministry and noted that he would be compelled to confine himself to his house in the Al-Ma'adi District of Cairo, which has become a fortress.

'Abd al-Majid Meets Norwegian Defense Minister

NC161437 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1350 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Cairo, 16 Jun (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met today with Norwegian Defense Minister Johan Jorgen Holst and his accompanying delegation. The Norwegian minister arrived in Cairo yesterday for a visit of several days as part of a tour of the region.

Bilateral relations and their promotion were discussed at the meeting, and both sides expressed satisfaction with the growing ties between the two countries and their intention to strengthen these in all fields.

They also reviewed developments in the Middle East, including efforts to convene an international conference for peace in the region, the Gulf war, and Lebanon. The two sides agreed that accelerated efforts were needed to find a quick solution to the problems that threaten peace and stability in this vital region of the world. Dr 'Abd al-Majid expressed Egypt's appreciation for the role Norway and its forces play in keeping peace in the Middle East.

Saudi Minister Arrives for Fair Inauguration

NC161133 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1028 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Cairo, 16 Jun (MENA) — Ibrahim al-'Anqari, Saudi minister of municipal and rural affairs, arrived in Cairo this

morning to join the Saudi delegaiton that will inaugurate the fair "Saudi Arabia, Yesterday and Today."

'Umar 'Abdallah Qadi, mayor of Medina, received Al-'Anqari at the airport.

Abu Ghazalah Discusses Regional, Military Issues
JN140721 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic
11 Jun 87 pp 3, 4

[Interview with Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, Egyptian deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, by Jalal Duwaydar and Jamal al-Ghaytani in Cairo; date not given]

[Excerpts][*Al-Akhbar*] Were the political circumstances responsible for what took place in June 1967?

[Abu Ghazalah] The war, any war, is a political decision made by the decisionmakers from among several alternatives. These alternatives are prepared and chosen by politicians, military personnel, economists, and other experts. I mean, although going to war is a political decision, this decision is made in accordance with military, economic, political, and psychological studies. Accurate and realistic studies constitute a major guarantee for the success of the war decision and for turning it from an adventure into a reasonable and carefully-studied decision. Going to war is not an isolated action but the outcome of the social and political framework of the state. Since war totally depends on politics to a point where politics define the limits of the war and dictate these limits on the military personnel, it would be logical that, after making the political decision to go to war, all the state sectors, particularly the military sector, should work for the success of this decision. This was part of what took place in 1973. However, regarding the 1967 decision, perhaps you do not know that the first law coordinating relations and defining roles between the political and military actions regarding the duties of the command and control of combat and war, was issued in 1968. This means it was issued after the June 1967 war as a political and military lesson from the defeat. This gives an idea of the lack of harmonious, strategic military and political coordination before the 1967 war. [passage omitted]

[*Al-Akhbar*] How do you view the change in the Arab arena after 20 years?

[Abu Ghazalah] The Arab arena now resembles a house with a number of gas leaks and a number of unwise people and children playing with matches; any spark could cause the explosion, and any rational and wise action could save the house.

[*Al-Akhbar*] What is your evaluation of the situation on the eastern border of the Arab world, and is there an imminent end to the war, which has been raging for 7 years between Iraq and Iran?

[Abu Ghazalah] President Husni Mubarak has warned against the continuation and escalation of the Iraq-Iran war. I have expressed my concern from a military viewpoint several times, the last of which was 3 weeks ago. Before we continue our military talks let us recall what took place in Lebanon. The result was that Lebanon lost its domestic identity. No one knows who is with whom and who is against whom. No one knows who finances, kills, or destroys. The escalation of the Gulf war could lead to some of the region's states losing their identity on the international level. This is very dangerous because the region is now experiencing a lack of strategic harmony. The escalation of the war could lead to a tactical conflict. The Iraq-Iran war is turning into a war of mistakes. Any mistake could lead to a confrontation between the two superpowers on our territory or in our waters and skies. Any single mistake could lead to a new oil war with regard to production, marketing, and prices. The whole world would suffer from such a war. Any single mistake could expand the war to include other states seeking to build themselves and improve the living conditions of their citizens. Any single mistake could bring the warring parties to the brink of collapse.

The war could turn from a conflict of political wills into mistakes committed by political wills. Such mistakes have caused military mistakes and hasty, angry, and irrational reactions. The solution currently proposed is internationalizing the oil tanker war, according to which foreign forces will protect oil supplies and oil tankers through the use of these forces' naval units or flags. This is a short-term solution. Hence, all these interlinked factors make it difficult to predict the progress of the war and leave one prey to guesswork. Nobody can base his policies on guesswork. Therefore, militarily speaking, I do not see an immediate end to this war. On the contrary, I see a terrifying end. We are not witnessing a war that can be won by good planning and distinguished combat performance. We are actually witnessing a war that can be easily lost from mistakes.

[*Al-Akhbar*] How far has the modernization of our Armed Forces reached?

[Abu Ghazalah] Let us first agree that the modernization process itself is an indicator of an active life. Modernization is a continuous process that is never stopped or halted. What we are doing today is a continuation of a long march launched by the Armed Forces a long time ago. The political, strategic, and technological variables make it imperative that we bring about changes in the phases and directions of modernization. However, I can tell you about the ideas of my colleagues who are managing the modernization process, following it up, and making decisions concerning the best directions to follow. The modernization of the Armed Forces has moved simultaneously in various directions:

1. Manpower is the principal source of national security. The geographic position, topography of the land, energy, and economy are indeed very important factors, but the human being remains the decisive factor that can develop all these other factors. This preoccupation with the human being has always been our first priority in the modernization process.

2. Militarily speaking, we are modernizing the human capabilities of the Armed Forces because these capabilities are the brain and mind of the Forces. Hence, we always work to create a class of commanders and staff officers capable of understanding strategic thought, and consequently, of formulating and drawing up the best strategic military options, as well as the best defense policies that serve the interests of our nation.

3. The modernization process does not stop halfway. Hence, we have launched the modernization process, beginning with the first rung of the ladder; namely, military colleges, institutes, and training centers. Not only do we seek to create the professional fighting personality, but also comprehensive thinking concerning national defense. This thinking should take into account and understand the political, economic, and social situations, and not only those related to military issues.

4. The mind which is not psychologically balanced cannot be creative and render great services to the people. Hence, we are interested in modernization and in boosting the morale of troops, employees, and officers. Morale-boosting is not produced merely by writing books, delivering lectures, educating personnel, or increasing awareness. Housing, clothing, food, and a secure future are prerequisites for high morale, and we have taken big strides in this direction.

5. We have fully developed the methods used to draw up military plans, and alternative military plans. Besides, we have modernized methods of training the individual and the formation, and also methods for the daily monitoring of performance levels. We have also developed methods to secure technical requirements and supplies.

6. Perhaps, the most prominent field in which modernization was brought about concerns research, as this field is the one in which science and military technology are developed. This field also casts its shadows on the future, which we always keep in mind.

7. What preoccupies us right now in our modernization research is reaching the best shape and size for the Armed Forces, especially since the introduction of very sophisticated weapons and equipment, each of which can perform the tasks of several old weapons or pieces of equipment. For example, one early warning plane can perform the tasks of several ground radar devices. The most important thing at present, in the field of modernization, is that we have stopped looking for various solutions to help us tackle various problems. We have begun to view things comprehensively and we have also begun to tackle the most important issue, the Armed Forces' performance. We are no longer looking for solutions to every individual case. [passage omitted]

Ghali Interviewed on PLO Ties, Mideast Conference

JN161609 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 15 Jun 87 p 19

[Interview with Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, by Sawsan Abu Husayn in Cairo — date not given]

[Text] [Abu Husayn] What is the state of Egyptian-Palestinian relations?

[Ghali] Egypt's decision to close PLO offices was merely a response to the 18th PNC resolutions and decisions. Egypt regarded these resolutions as ingratitude, given Egypt's sacrifices for the Palestinian cause since 1948. The two sides are now trying to contain this ephemeral crisis and allow political realism to prevail in relations between the Egyptian and Palestinian sides. Perhaps everyone knows Egypt's policy toward the various aspects of the Palestinian problem sought to help the Palestinian people regain their rights and establish bases for a just and durable peace in the region. Egypt's conviction is that the region's security and stability will not be realized unless the legitimate rights of all peoples in the region are guaranteed, particularly the rights of the Palestinian people.

[Abu Husayn] Will the abrogation of the Jordanian-Palestinian accord be an obstacle to convening an international conference?

[Ghali] Egypt is currently coordinating with Jordan in search for ways to consolidate a clear Arab attitude toward solving problems that are still preventing the convocation of an international conference. Some of these problems are related to the form in which the concerned parties will attend. We hope these efforts will succeed and bear fruit in the next stage.

[Abu Husayn] The PNC has approved the idea of an international conference provided the Palestinians attend as an independent delegation. This condition is not acceptable to the United States and Israel. How can this condition be avoided so a conference may be held?

[Ghali] A study of resolutions and plans concerning a settlement, beginning with the Arab peace plan and ending with an international conference, shows that the opportunity for the PLO and Jordan to attend the conference as a single, joint delegation still exists, even if we take into consideration the PNC resolution in question. The PNC resolution stipulated that the Palestinians in the conference should be represented on an equal footing with other parties. This means a joint delegation, an independent delegation, or a unified Arab delegation. These formalities should not prevent the real efforts to end the dispute and reach peace. It is clear now that the main obstacle to convening a conference is not the PLO but the Israeli attitude.

[Abu Husayn] Could you shed more light on prospects for convening a conference in the present circumstances, especially on the Israeli stand, which is impeding its convocation?

[Ghali] The chances for convening an international conference have lessened now that it has become apparent that Israel is deeply divided on the need to hold it. Despite unanimous external support for the conference from the USSR, the European countries, other UN and Security Council members, and even from the United States, Israel cannot make an official decision on this issue and will eventually abort the idea of convening a conference or at least place obstacles before it.

The latest form of this decrease in efforts to convene a conference is the EEC foreign ministers' decision that there is no room for new peaceful initiatives in the Middle East due to internal Israeli differences over the idea. There was also some decrease before this when U.S. officials, who had supported the conference and promised to exert necessary efforts to this effect, said the last word concerning this issue is Israel's because it is a primary party to the dispute. It seems Israel will not be able to make a decision on this issue before resorting to the ballot box and holding a general election. We do not know whether these elections will

produce a definite Israeli decision or in which direction this decision will go.

[Abu Husayn] During your tour of European countries, which included Switzerland, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom, did you sense any consensus in the countries you visited on the possibility of holding an international conference?

[Ghali] The conclusion one may have from the intensive European contacts following the EC communique dated 22 February 1987 is: European interest in the Middle East has doubled at this stage in which it appears things are proceeding quicker than usual toward the first steps leading to a general agreement for settling the problem.

If we view the policy of every Euroepan country separately and the policy of the EC as a whole, we will realize that Europe's biggest worry is over its absence in the international arena, whether on political, economic, or cultural levels, All these fields are interconnected. The most important worry the Europeans have nowadays is that the two superpowers in the disarmament talks may reach an agreement over their heads and what this will entail in terms of damage to European interests not only on the level of security but also on the level of Europe's role and presence in the world.

Europe links the talks on global disarmament between the two giants with the chronic regional problems which sour international relations. As far as continuity is concerned, the Middle East problem and the Arab-Israeli conflict are most probably the most important and most serious problems. The European analysis is that the party that will be absent fromt he disarmament talks and the agreement on nuclear balance will also be absent from the most important regional problems and from their settlement. There is no doubt Europe is completely aware much remains to be done before an international conference convenes. It believes its basic role at this stage is to faciliatate executory measures and define the organizational and practical points without whose solution no international conference can convene, such as the question of Palestinian representation, the objectives of the conference, and the role of each party in this conference. It goes without saying that Europe's success in finding a solution to these organizational matters will allow it to effectively participate in an international Middle East peace conference which, if it succeeds, will bring about radical changes in the big powers' relations with the region and in the balance of power in it.

[Abu Husayn] You were a member of the Egyptian delegation that accompanied President Husni Mubarak on his visit to Jordan on 3 June. Can you shed light on the most important topics discussed?

[Ghali] President Mubarak's recent visit to Jordan is within the framework of constant consultations between President Mubarak and his brother King Husayn. Their talks dealt with the recent serious developments of the Gulf war and the crucial issue of increasing efforts to convene an international conference.

Egypt has repeatedly announced it rejects, denounces, and condemns the prolongation of the Gulf war because of the grave consequences it will have, not only on the security and territorial integrity of Iraq, but also on the entire region's security, stability, and territorial integrity. Through its bilateral contacts with friendly and concerned countries and through international conferences and organizations, Egypt continues to exert efforts to end this war. Egypt believes in seriously and effectively contributing to containing the perils of this war and protecting the Gulf countries' territorial integrity as a first and necessary step toward attaining the ultimate objective of ending the war so the Arab nation may regain its strength, which is being exhausted, halt the aggression, and avoid the further shedding of Arab and Muslim blood.

Foreign Minister Denies Ethiopian Envoy Recalled

JN161120 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Khartoum, 16 Jun (SUNA) — The Foreign Ministry denies reports that Sudan has summoned its ambassador to Ethiopia. In a statement to the newspaper *Al-Ayyam* published here today, Foreign Minister Muhammad Tawfiq Ahmad said that Ambassador 'Uthman Nafi' has returned to Khartoum from Addis Ababa for his vacation, which he had interrupted to attend the recent OAU ministerial conference.

Local newspapers yesterday said that the ambassador was ordered recalled.

Military Spokesman on Jokau Garrison Survivors

JN161438 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1415 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Khartoum, 16 Jun (SUNA) — The official spokesman for the People's Armed Forces has confirmed that 26 soldiers of the Jokau garrison have safely reached the city of Al-Nasir. The spokesman added that the remainder of the garrison either could not escape or hide, were killed in action, or are now prisoners. It is noteworthy that the Jokau garrison, which suffered destructive shelling by SPLA forces, consisted of 196 soldiers and officers. Only six [as received] members of this garrison have reached the city of Al-Nasir.

SPLA Loses 560 Men at Jokau

JN151850 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1748 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Text] Khartoum, 15 Jun (SUNA) — The People's Armed Forces today issued a statement on the events which occurred in Jokau recently involving the Armed Forces and the rebels. The statement says:

With reference to the previous statement issued by the General Command on the events in Jokau, following the barbaric bombardment by the outlaws supported by Ethiopian planes and artillery and under the supervision of Cuban and East German experts as well as other foreign elements, the People's Armed Forces General Command has obtained information on the losses sustained by the outlaws before they took over the position as a result of the confrontation of and valiant attacks by the heroes who stubbornly and boldly defended the position against the repeated attacks of the outlaws and their supporters.

The statement adds: Our heroes confronted the outlaws' first assault, from the south, and killed 100 of them, including 1 officer.

The People's Armed Forces statement says: Our heroic soldiers met the attack, killing 200 of the enemy and wounding 35. Our heroes also met the outlaws' third assault, killing 150 of them and wounding 75 others.

The statement says the outlaws' total losses were 560 killed or wounded.

In conclusion, the People's Armed Forces statement pays tribute to the spirit of self-sacrifice and heroism shown by the men of the Armed Forces at Jokau.

Helicopter Reportedly Downed

JN171120 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1045 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Khartoum, 17 Jun — It was announced yesterday that Air Force Major Muhammad al-Bashir and Air Force Captain Ja'far 'Uthman al-Shaykh, who flew a military helicopter searching for the commander and members of the Jokau garrison on the Sudanese-Ethiopian border, were martyred. The helicopter began the search following a radio contact indicating that survivors were somewhere in that area. However, the helicopter did not return to base. This was stated by *Al-Ayyam*. The newspaper said that the Armed Forces General Command is expected to issue a statement explaining how the two officers were martyred. The paper said that the two officers' families have been informed of their martyrdom. The paper also indicated that some unofficial reports claim that rebels destroyed the helicopter in midair while others claim the two officers were executed by rebels.

Communist Party Announces Initiative To End War

JN161532 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1424 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Khartoum, 16 Jun (SUNA) — The Sudanese Communist Party has announced an initiative to halt the civil war in southern Sudan. The Sudanese Communist Party in a statement released today proposed a complete end to the fighting, not a temporary truce, due to dialogue and not armed solutions. The initiative calls for an immediate cease-fire; lifting the state of emergency; opening all roads in the south to transport relief supplies, medicines, and the necessities of the citizens there; dissolving the so-called friendly organizations; ending the arming of tribes; supporting and strengthening the security organs and the regular forces in contact areas; and establishing committees and appropriate organs to stop the fighting in consultation with various political forces.

To give momentum to these moves toward peace, the Communist Party called for revoking the September 1983 laws, reviving pre-1983 laws, canceling the joint defense pact with Egypt and other similar agreements, and for deciding certain issues by the constitutional conference. The statement says that the SPLM misunderstood certain circumstances following the uprising and that measures taken by the transitional government also hampered the SPLM's participation in improving the new life after the uprising.

The statement stresses that continuing the war after the uprising constitutes an unjustified heavy loss, that a military solution had been attempted but instead only led to an increase in the nation's problems, that continuing the war involves the danger of foreign interference and military coups, that weakening the Sudanese Army is an unforgivable mistake, that our nation is in dire need of a unified national army capable of protecting the country's unity, and that any plan to preserve Sudan's unity and security as well as democratic coexistence among all factions should emerge from both peace negotiations and joint agreements acceptable to all parties. A copy of the statement was delivered

to Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi and another copy will be sent to the SPLM.

SPLA Radio Comments on Use of National Languages

EA161928 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in Bari 1120 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Today is the 2d anniversary of Radio SPLA's "Nationalities Service." There are many languages available to Radio SPLA; these will be used as soon as we acquire facilities for them. Many people formerly believed that national languages such as Bari, Latuka, Shilluk, and Nuer were broadcast to convince some people to join the SPLA, in that they would believe that since the SPLA broadcasts in their languages, it is thus the best organization for the country. But brothers and sisters, I wish to tell you that we have now been on the air for 2 years, and during those years we have spoken the truth, we have sung our own songs, we have discussed our own traditional cultures, and we have told our own folktales, which reminds us of our origins.

The second important thing is that we must realize that oppression does not simply mean being used as a child to do any kind of task, as in: bring me water, make me a fire, take this chair of mine, and so on. Honestly, this is not oppression at all. Real oppression is being denied the right to speak your own language. [passage omitted]

The Khartoum government does not and is not willing to hear our languages on national radio. In the past many people tried very hard to introduce national languages on radio but failed in this. They were told that the introduction of such languages would demand a high consumption of diesel and petrol to run generators and that there was not enough money for this. But these were not the real reasons. The government just did not want us to speak our own languages. They also wanted us to forget our own languages and speak only one language.

Now, brothers and sisters, if you look at the languages spoken on Radio Omdurman you will find that only one language, Arabic, is used. If by accident the station uses English it is then only a short time before Radio Omdurman returns to Arabic. All songs are sung in this one language; television and other media are dominated by it. Our languages have disappeared from the national media. Only their [Arabic-speakers'] children are seen on television: Our children cannot be seen there. We are forced to view the images of their children on television because they are the gods in Sudan.

But it is our pleasure to tell you that the time has come. The purpose of initiating Radio SPLA was for all the Sudanese people to know that a radio has been begun broadcasting for all of them.Radio SPLA was established so that it can broadcast in various national languages, including English and Arabic, because these two languages can be heard in many countries. But it is also important for our own national languages to be spoken over the airwaves so that the Sudanese people can hear what is happening in their country, so that they can know their own suffering, so that they can sing their own songs and express themselves better in languages they know better. Therefore, the SPLA-SPLM High Committee initiated Radio SPLA so that the Sudanese people can understand their problems and act accordingly. That is why Radio SPLA has not changed its broadcasts.

Some time back, Radio Juba and Radio Omdurman claimed they wanted to broadcast in the Latuka, Nuer, and Bari languages, as they did in the Anyanya-I war. During the Anyanya-I war, when the rebels were about to defeat their enemy, the Khartoum government tried to introduce various languages simply to confuse people and to prevent them from joining the Anyanya. Now that the SPLA's opposition has emerged the Khartoum government is trying the same tactic. They are hoping that when the SPLA has been defeated those languages will be abolished, and they will then give the reason for this as being a shortage of fuel.

But national languages on Radio SPLA have come to stay, and we shall broadcast in more languages. When we get our own government in Khartoum, people will speak their own languages and speak freely in their own languages. This will enable the outside world to know that Sudan is composed of many tribes.

Relief Workers Told To Hand Over Supplies

EA152106 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 2130 GMT 14 Jun 87

[Text] The political alliance of southern Sudan today said in a news statement that the deputy governor of Bahr al-Ghazal has asked the relief mission in the region to hand over its stores to the regional government. This is so the regional government can discharge its responsibilities toward those needing help.

Because the relief supplies were donated to the Sudanese Government by friendly governments and a number of international organizations, distributing these supplies was the government's responsibility. The statement said that the popular committees had proven their ability to distribute relief supplies in an orderly manner and therefore should be helped to carry out this work in all parts of southern Sudan.

KUWAIT

PLO 'Advisor' Comments on Talks With Shaykh Sabah

LD161540 Kuwait KUNA in English 1442 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Kuwait, June 16 (KUNA) — Deputy premier and foreign minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad Tuesday conferred with political advisor to the chairman of the PLO Hani al-Hasan on recent developments in the Palestinian arena.

Al-Hasan told reporters that the discussions tackled "the possibility of launching Kuwaiti moves to create a more positive climate between Egypt and the PLO and between the organization and other Arab parties."

The step would depend on Kuwait's great asset of respect and appreciation it enjoys in the Arab arena, he said and described the meeting with "dean of the Arab diplomats as always beneficial and interesting."

Kuwait had initiated senior level contacts to settle the misunderstanding between the PLO and Egypt (?that) followed the 18th session of the Palestine National Council in Algeria. Egypt had closed PLO offices in Cairo after the PNC session.

The Palestinian official pointed out that his organization was awaiting an Egyptian move in her direction within few days.

On the relations with Jordan, Al-Hasan said that contacts between the organization and the Jordanian Government did not cease and expressed hopes that bilateral relations would always progress.

He expressed conviction in importance of the Jordanian Palestinian relationship, saying that the Jordanian-Palestinian understanding is the basis for creating an Arab consensus in service of the Palestine cause.

He pointed out that there was no new development in the organization's relations with Syria.

The (?advisor) strongly criticised the recent Budapest meeting between Palestinian leaders and representatives of Leftist Israeli parties.

He said "I believe what took place in Budapest was political absurdity...and does not represent a reasonable policy."

Priority of the PLO endeavor at present is settling relations with the Arabs "otherwise we will fall in a big political illusion that we will pay dearly for in the end."

Al-Hasan stressed that he will personally struggle for arranging a detailed Palestinian-[word indistinct] understanding on all questions.

Al-Hasan would not indulge in details of the Budapest meeting, saying he was committed to speaking at legitimate bodies.

The PLO political advisor said he was waiting for the convening of the PLO's Central Council and the Revolutionary Council of Fatah Movement, major component of the PLO, "so as to express my views with all frankness."

Whether there is a possibility for holding an international Mideast peace conference before end of this year, Al-Hasan said it was difficult to fix a date for the convocation of that conference.

He pointed out that important developments are taking place in the international arena on this subject but would not elaborate.

He underlined, however, that the PLO has to mend its [word indistinct] relations prior to any other relations.

Al-Hasan described the PLO's Executive Committee meeting expected in Baghdad within a couple of days as periodical and ordinary to review all questions, particularly moves to secure the holding of the international conference.

OMAN

Sultan Qabus Returns From Visit to UAE

JN151339 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Excerpt] His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id has concluded a private visit to the UAE and returned home in God's care from the city of Al-'Ayn. His majesty was seen off by his brother His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, UAE president; His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, heir apparent of Abu Dhabi and commander in chief of the UAE Armed Forces; and His Highness Shaykh Tahnun ibn Muhammad, the president's representative in the eastern region, as well as a number of their highnesses, shaykhs, and Cabinet ministers.

During the visit his majesty the sultan held talks with his brother His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultuan Al Nuhayyan, UAE president, on existing close bilateral ties and Arab, Gulf, and international issues. [Passage omitted]

PDRY

Council of Ministers Discusses Economics

EA161631 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] The Council of Ministers held its regular meeting this morning, chaired by Brother Dr Yasin Sa'id Nu'man, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of Ministers. It discussed the items on its agenda.

The council discussed a special memorandum on the principles of preparing the general framework of the state's general budget for the 1988 fiscal year presented by the Finance Ministry on the basis of the Council of Ministers plan for 1987. The council approved the said principles. It charged all the ministers and heads of the executive offices and the central organs to make maximum efforts in raising the level of financial resources by

increasing the level of work productivity and improving (?performance). This will followthe council's previous decisions in this regard. The council also charged the ministers with submitting final allocations from the budget for their centers for the current year, 1988, to their Ministry of Finance.

The Council of Ministers also discussed a report on the living conditions of the Mayyun islanders and formed a special committee to examine the supply, health, housing and educational conditions there and the satisfaction of the islanders' essential needs,as well as the utilization of resources available on the island for its development in the coming period.

The council also discussed an explanatory memorandum on forming a coordinating committee to serve the bodies operating the republic's airport. The council approved in its minutes the setting up of the committee from the responsible bodies relevant to the work and activities of the airports. The council also defined its tasks, including issues and difficulties confronting the progress of work at the republic's airports.

The committee will have to find the appropriate solutions for the difficulties. It will also have to prepare a system for managing passenger movement, luggage, freight, and services at airfields [words indistinct] to ensure regulation of work and commitment to the rules and laws in effect. Other duties and jurisdictions will also be assigned.

At the meeting, the council also discussed the provisions of agreements concluded between our country and the OPEC international development fund and the Arab fund for economic and social development. Both of these will contribute to financing the first phase of the Labus and the greater Aden water projects. The agreements were signed last April in Vienna and Casablanca.

After endorsing the agreements, the council charged the ministers, each in his area of competence, to implement the various sections of these agreements.

The Council of Ministers also approved the sports cooperation protocol between the Higher Council of Sports and the state body for youth and sports of the People's Republic of Hungary, signed in Aden on 16 April 1987.

After discussion and adding observations of the members, the council also approved the law on reorganization of the Ministry of Public Health. The council also discussed a number of other reports and issues on its agenda.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Sultan Qabus, Delegation Arrive 15 Jun

JN151100 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic
0930 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Text] His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id, the sultan of sister Oman, arrived in the country at 1130 today on a fraternal visit. His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, the president of the state, led those who received his majesty upon his arrival by land in the city of Al-'Ayn.

His majesty the Omani monarch was received with pride and appreciation by His Highness the president who warmly embraced his majesty, wishing him a good stay. The sultan was also received by His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, the heir apparent and the deputy commander of the Armed Forces; His Highness Shaykh Tahnun ibn Muhammad, the president's representative in the eastern region and chairman of the Board of Directors of the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company; His Excellency Shaykh Surur ibn Muhammad, the chief of the President's Office; His Excellency Shaykh Hamdan ibn Rashid al-Maktum, finance and industry minister; a number of their highnesses the shaykhs and their excellencies the ministers; senior officials; Muhammad Sultan al-'Uways, the UAE charge d'affaires to Oman.

His highness the president and the country's great guest then left for the Al-Maqam Palace in Al-'Ayn where they held a bilateral meeting within the framework of continuous consultations between the two leaders.

His Majesty Sultan Qabus is accompanied on his visit to the country by His Excellency Sayf ibn Hamad, the court chief; Major General 'Ali ibn Majid al-Mu'ammiri, chief of the Palace Office; His Excellency Hamad ibn Humud, his majesty the sultan's adviser; His Excellency Yusuf al-'Alawi, the minister of state for foreign affairs; and His Excellency Badr ibn Humid, interior minister.

Soviet First Deputy Prime Minister Begins Visit

Vorontsov Arrives 16 Jun

JN161645 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1632 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Jun (INA) — Yuliy Vorontsov, Soviet first deputy foreign minister, arrived in Baghdad today on a visit scheduled to last for several days. During his stay, he will hold talks with a number of Iraqi Foreign Ministry officials on relations between the two friendly countries. He was received at the airport by Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Wisam al-Zahawi and a number of Iraqi officials.

Meets With Under Secretary

JN161733 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1718 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Baghdad,, 16 Jun (INA) — Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Wisam al-Zahawi met here tonight with Yuliy Vorontsov, the Soviet first deputy foreign minister. They discussed relations between their two friendly countries and exchanged views on current international consultations and the efforts being made within the UN Security Council to end the war that Iran insists on continuing against Iraq.

The meeting was also attended by the chief of the Foreign Ministry's First International Section, the chief of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Near East and North African Department, and the Soviet ambassador in Baghdad.

The Soviet official arrived in Baghdad today on a visit scheduled to last for several days.

Communique No 2,710 Details Combat 15-16 Jun

JN161626 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Communique No 2,710 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 16 June 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With courage, determination, and honesty, our victorious forces continue to inflict new losses on the Khomeyniites, the slaves of Zionism. The following is a roundup of activities for last night and today:

1. With efficiency and ability, our brave hawks conducted 30 combat missions against enemy positions located opposite our units in operational areas. Our hawks inflicted further losses on the scoundrels, their equipment, and weaponry, and then returned safely to base in God's care.

2. The brave helicopter knights carried out a series of successful raids on Khomeyniite assembly points, positions, and weapon emplacements, inflicting significant losses on the vile aggressors during 33 combat sorties. The helicopter knights returned safely to base, praise be to God.

3. Our units in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah pounded enemy positions and inflicted the following losses: four scoundrels killed, two weapon emplacements and two infantry positions destroyed, two ammunition dumps detonated, one vehicle and one observation post destroyed, and several enemy positions burned.

4. Two enemy soldiers were killed, four others were wounded, and two ammunition dumps were blown up in the II Army Corps central sector.

5. Two machinegun emplacements were destroyed and three ammunition dumps were detonated in the VII Army Corps sector.

6. Three enemy soldiers were burned to death and two ammunition dumps were set ablaze in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan.

7. One large trailer loaded with a vehicle was destroyed in the VI Army Corps sector east of Tigris.

8. Using long-range artillery, the charlatanist clique ruling in Tehran shelled the city of Abu al-Khasib. As a result, civilian property, houses, and shops were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 16 June 1987

'Enemy' F-14 Downed 16 Jun

JN161835 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1825 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Jun (INA) — While carrying out their duties to protect Iraqi territorial waters north of the Arab Gulf, Iraqi fighter planes shot down an F-14 enemy aircraft. In a statement to INA a short while ago, an Iraqi military spokesman said that the enemy aircraft crashed into the sea after being accurately hit by the Iraqi fighters, all of which returned safely to base.

Assembly Speaker on Gulf Safety, Foreign Role

PM161045 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 10-16 Jun 87 pp 19, 21

[Interview with Speaker of National Assembly Sa'dun Hamadi by unidentified correspondent in Bonn; date not given]

[Text] */Al-Majallah/* Do you believe that naval deployment and the fleets of the great powers sailing toward the Gulf region will affect the course of the Iran-Iraq war?

[Hamadi] The presence of these fleets is not new. They have in fact been present since the war's beginning, although in smaller numbers. I believe that what is now important are Iran's frequent attacks against oil tankers and merchant ships in the Arab Gulf.

We stated right from the start that Iran constitutes a negative element in the region. While this observation used to be taken at face value because of our dispute with Iran, recent events have confirmed our view. The deployment of missiles aimed at the Gulf of Oman and the Strait of Hormuz provides evidence that the Iranian regime is threatening navigation in the Arab Gulf.

This is undoubtedly a threat to peace since it threatens the interests of the industrialized countries that import oil from this region.

It is undoubtedly Iran and only Iran that is responsible for the Western military presence in this region.

[Al-Majallah] This means that the Gulf war has moved from its current course to enter the circle of internationalization.

[Hamadi] No, I do not believe that the war has entered into a course of internationalization. However, what is occurring is causing international concern and worldwide alarm, and this is due only to the dangerous attitudes of the Iranian regime. But we still cannot state that the Gulf war has entered a stage of internationalization, because internationalization means carrying out joint international action.

[Al-Majallah] But it seems to have been proven that protecting international navigation in the Gulf is impossible without seeking help from foreign powers.

[Hamadi] This is a question I do not know how to answer. However, it must be stressed that we are a country that believes in the principles of nonalignment. We also believe that it is in our interest for the Gulf to be a region of peace and not to have any foreign military presence. Iran is responsible for this military presence and it is Iran that has brought foreign influence to the region.

After its attacks on Iraq failed, I believe that the Tehran regime wanted to shuffle the cards in the region. It wished to divert attention from the battlefront and from that decisive year, and so on, to create an issue involving the great powers and call on them to establish a Gulf region stronghold.

[Al-Majallah] Do you believe that Iran's possession of Chinese missiles could restrict freedom of navigation in the Gulf?

[Hamadi] Yes. With these and other missiles Iran can threaten shipping lanes in this region. The presence of these missiles constitutes a serious threat to international navigation in the Arab Gulf.

[Al-Majallah] What role do you want the European states to play in this regard?

[Hamadi] We believe that the European states can do three things:

First: Actually prevent arms supplies from reaching Iran, including by monitoring the black market.

Second: Stop purchasing oil from Iran because intransigent Iran, which refuses to respond to peace initiatives, relies on oil exports to finance 90 percent of its military activities. The European states get oil from other countries.

Third: The European states can back UN efforts and help the United Nations to issue effective resolutions to put an end to this war.

[Al-Majallah] What in your opinion are the real motives behind the great powers' presence in the Gulf region?

[Hamadi] The great powers want to protect their interests. We believe that the best method of protecting these interests is for them to concentrate on ending this war and not concentrate on a military presence or military action. It is the war's continuation that threatens international shipping. Therefore, and according to international law, it would be more useful to work toward ending this war.

[Al-Majallah] Has the problem of the U.S. frigate been resolved, and what were the results of the investigations?

[Hamadi] I do not know what the U.S. investigatory team submitted to its government, but I do know one thing; namely that the U.S. side is convinced that the incident was accidental and an unintentional error.

Soviet Request on Delegation Visit Not Received

TA161717 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Jerusalem has not yet received a Soviet request for approval of a visit by a consular delegation next month. A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry in Moscow announced today that the USSR has requested entry visas for the consular delegation from the Netherlands Embassy, which represents Israeli interests in the Soviet Union. He said that the delegation will want to inquire about the assets of the Russian church in Israel. The Soviet spokesman explained that Moscow refuses to allow an Israeli consular delegation into the Soviet Union because Israel has no assets there.

Peres Expects Request Soon

TA170437 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Speaking in Jerusalem last night, both Foreign Minister Peres and the visiting Dutch foreign minister, Hans van Den Broek, indicated that the report of a Soviet visa request was true, but could not confirm that it had already been received. They were speaking during a dinner given for the visiting minister. Peres also made it clear that direct flights for Soviet Jews to Israel are not practical for the present. The Voice of Israel's political affairs correspondent, Gid'on Remez:

[Begin recording] [Remez] After an exceptionally warm toast to Israel, the Dutch minister spoke of recent changes in Moscow, where his embassy will continue to uphold Israeli and Jewish interests. Preliminary as these changes may be, Mr van Den Broek said, they held a promise for an enlarged Soviet role in the world, as well as a challenge to put Soviet intentions to the test on Jewish issues. Later I asked the minister's comment on Moscow's announcement that visas for a consular delegation to Israel had been requested through the Dutch.

[Van Den Broek] I've only heard the same news as you have, but not directly, so it's difficult for me to comment upon, but any duty we have to make, we will perform. You may rest assured there.

[Remez] Mr Peres also denied that a visa request had already been received but said he expected one within a few days. As to the Soviet statement that a similar request would not be granted for an Israeli consular delegation, he said that Jerusalem was not making reciprocity an ultimative demand, but he believed that when Israel asked for such visas, they would be granted.

Peres had less welcome news on the Jewish aspect. Israel had been disappointed with regard to direct flights here for Jewish emigrants. The Soviets were less generous on this than had been hoped, and for the present, the possibility was nonexistent. The Voice of Israel learned that contacts about direct flights had stalled at an advanced stage and under circumstances possibly pointing to highest level instructions from Moscow. [end recording]

Delegation To Visit Moscow

TA170611 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0405 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Talk in the studio between correspondent Razi Barqay and program moderator David Grossman — live]

[Text] [Grossman] Further details have been learned about contacts with the Soviets. Razi Barqay, our correspondent, good morning to you.

[Barqay] Good morning. This morning we reported on a consular delegation which will be coming from the Soviet Union. An Israeli women's delegation is leaving for Moscow tomorrow, led by Knesset Members [MK's] Ora Namir and Haya Grossman. An Israeli Communist Party delegation is leaving for the PRC. It also now transpires that in recent weeks negotiations have been conducted on a trip by senior Israeli public figures to Moscow within 2 to 3 weeks at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee. According to our information, Labor Party Secretary 'Uzi Bar'am, MAPAM Secretary El'azar Granot, and additional public figures from RAKAH, the Labor Party, and other left-wing parties are slated to leave for the Soviet Union, some of them for the first time. Two mayors were also mentioned as candidates for this trip, but this point has not been decided yet. If the contacts being conducted here by HADASH members, especially MK Tawfiq Tubi, succeed, for the first time in a long while senior officials from one of Israel's ruling parties will pay an official visit to Moscow in July.

[Grossman] Will these personages you mentioned accept the invitation?

[Barqay] It is reasonable that they will. The Israelis will surely be happy to go. I understand that the final details are presently being worked out. At first a large delegation was expected to leave, but at the Soviets' request the size was reduced. We are therefore no longer talking about a very large delegation, although its profile, with the consent of both the Soviets and Israelis, will be very high. The delegation will meet with Soviet Government officials and with Jewish activists too, of course. The official announcement on the departure of this delegation is expected within a few days.

Communist Party Delegation To Visit PRC

TA161834 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1605 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] An official delegation from the Israeli Communist Party will leave for Beijing next week as the guest of the CPC Central Committee. This is, in fact, the first contact between the two parties in 25 years following the break which took place in the days of Mao Zedong. Razi Barqay has the details of this story:

[Begin recording] For years RAKAH has been considered by the Chinese as a Soviet satellite. There was a complete break between the Chinese and Israeli communists during the days of great tension between Beijing and Moscow. Times have now changed. RAKAH, too, has changed somewhat, and the Chinese have decided to send an official invitation. Two of the most senior

members of the Israeli party will leave for Beijing next week. They are Secretary Me'ir Wilner and George Tubi, a member of the Central Committee who is the brother of Knesset Member Tawfiq Tubi. Is this invitation tantamount to a Chinese signal to the Israeli Government? This is a question we posed to Me'ir Wilner this evening. His reply: We will find this out in Beijing. In any event, no contact has been made between him and the Jerusalem Foreign Ministry. [end recording]

RAKAH's Wilner Interviewed

TA170721 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0405 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Interview with Me'ir Wilner, head of the Israeli Communist Party, by Razi Barqay "last night"; place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Wilner] A few weeks ago we received an invitation from the CPC Central Committee. The invitation reads: The Chinese invite a delegation from the Israeli Communist Party Central Committee on a visit for talks with the CPC leadership.

[Barqay] But they boycotted you for many years, did they not?

[Wilner] You cannot say this in fact. There was never an official break. We regularly sent them our material, and they regularly reciprocated with their English publications. Therefore, no side ever declared a break. De facto, our visits ranged from 1956 — when I personally participated in the eighth convention of the CPC, the first convention after the revolution, featuring Mao Zedong, Zhou Enlai, and other well-known leaders — to 1961 when our last delegation visited the PRC.

[Barqay] Do you believe that you fell victim to the tension that prevailed between the Chinese and Moscow?

[Wilner] I do not define it in this way. There was a certain development in the communist movement, and matters are gradually improving now.

[Barqay] Can one infer from this that matters are also gradually improving between Israel and the PRC?

[Wilner] I have no information on this. I simply think that this will be one of the issues we will discuss there.

[Barqay] What do you know about the Chinese position on the Middle East conflict?

[Wilner] To the best of my knowledge, they are, first of all, in favor of the international conference as decided by the UN General Assembly, which would include the participation of the PRC as one of the five permanent members of the Security Council, Israel, of course, and the PLO. They recognize the PLO, as does the United Nations, as the sole representative of the Palestinian people.

[Barqay] I have a question you will not like: Does Moscow know of this visit?

[Wilner, laughing] This is really funny. I do not know whether they know of it at all.

[Barqay] In other words, is the state of things such that you can launch an independent move of this type without the knowledge of the Moscow CPSU?

[Wilner] How does this concern them? We are an independent party. They are also an independent brother party, of course. This does not mean that our correspondent in Moscow [as heard] will not know; at this very moment he does not yet know.

Foreign Ministry Denies Meeting With Syrians

TA161729 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Israel's Foreign Ministry has joined the Prime Minister's Office in denying all knowledge of a reported meeting between Israel and Syrian officials. The report, emanating from Cairo, said that such a meeting had been held in the Swiss city of Basel [as heard], and that the discussion had centered on events in Lebanon. A Foreign Ministry spokesman here in Jerusalem said there is no basis or foundation at all on the reports, adding that he knew nothing of such a meeting and that for all practical purposes no such meeting took place.

Rabin Notes 'Tacit Understanding' With Syria

TA160942 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 16 Jun 87 p 4

["Exclusive" report by Yo'av Tocker]

[Text] Paris — Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin disclosed yesterday that in the context of measures undertaken to protect northern Israel from terror, "we are on the lookout for any ship approaching or leaving Lebanon's coast." According to him, the danger of infiltration by sea has recently increased because, among other things, Lebanese Christians are now helping the terrorists infiltrate.

In a political-security review he delivered before several dozen Israeli emissaries in Paris, Rabin emphasized that there is "a kind of tacit understanding" with Syria in the Lebanese arena. According to him, Damascus is very well aware "of the limits it should not exceed which, if crossed, would be regarded by Israel as a direct threat to its security and which would consequently necessitate Israeli intervention."

The defense minister described this as "a map of Lebanon drawn by Syria and Israel." According to him, the signals coming from Damascus, in the military sphere as well, denote "soberness" on the part of Syria in this respect.

On the other hand, Rabin explained, "if the Syrians deem fit to go into west Beirut — let them go in and enjoy it." According to him, such intervention in Lebanon has long been like "marching into a swamp."

Rabin reiterated that Israeli policy in Lebanon has for a long time been determined by security considerations alone; namely,

safeguarding security in northern Israel by meticulously guarding "the border of terrorism."

Peres Meets Netherlands Counterpart on Conference

TA161033 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1000 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres says that in the course of his visits to Britain and France next week he will try to obtain memoranda of understanding in which the two countries will express support for an international conference. In a talk with the Netherlands foreign minister in Jerusalem today, Shim'on Peres said that the memoranda are needed to reassure those in Israel who are afraid of the convening of an international conference.

Sinyurah Interviewed on Purpose of Initiative

TA131111 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0805 GMT 13 Jun 87

[Studio interview with *Al-Fajr* chief editor Hanna Sinyurah by Yosi 'Abadi and Dani Vessely conducted in English; live or recorded]

[Text] ['Abadi] Shalom, Mr Sinyurah.

[Sinyurah] Hello, how are you?

['Abadi] Fine. So, Mr Sinyurah, did you get cold feet, or you are running to be the mayor of Jerusalem?

[Sinyurah] I am not getting any cold feet. I have said, and it is today in the newspapers, that only two things can stop my drive. One of them — if like Mr Matza, the member of Knesset from the Likud who I met last night — he said that he is going to go to the Knesset and make a legislation making it impossible for a Palestinian like myself to contest the election by legislating that only Israeli citizens can run for the municipal councils. So this is one obstacle that I cannot tackle, because I don't want to renounce my citizenship. I am a Palestinian and I am proud of being a Palestinian.

[Vessely] What is the second one?

[Sinyurah] The second obstacle is that at the moment my proposal has drawn a lot of criticism. Some of it is probably justified because some people think that my proposal to run for elections in the municipal elections next year would mean that this will endanger Palestinian sovereignty over East Jerusalem. I have said clearly that my platform will carry a political as well as day-to-day issues. The political issue is that I am running on a platform calling for dual sovereignty for the two people who live in Jerusalem. That means I don't accept unilateral annexation of the city, and what I am calling for is a unique example of coexistence in the city of Jerusalem for the two people who live in it, in this way making Jerusalem also not in words but in practice the city of peace.

[Vessely] So do you intend to withdraw your initiative because it is a recognition of the Israeli sovereignty on East Jerusalem?

[Sinyurah] Well, actually as far as I know, and I consulted some legal experts, my initiative will not mean that I have conceded sovereignty over East Jerusalem. Actually my going to the elections means that I am fighting to realize this sovereignty by claiming it. Unfortunately many Palestinians don't think so, so I am saying that I will consult in the next 4-6 weeks international legal experts on the issue of sovereignty. If their legal advice says that in any way my proposal endangers the issue of sovereignty then I will have to freeze it. Otherwise, if they give me the green light I will pursue my goal.

['Abadi] Do you have any way to know what King Husayn thinks about your initiative?

[Sinyurah] Well, I will tell you what the Jordanian papers did with my initiative. The Jordanian papers have said that my proposal means that I am giving up sovereignty for the holy Muslim and Christian places, and that I am accepting unilateral sovereignty. Actually what they are doing is saying that Hanna Sinyurah — and also here they were alluding at the PLO — they said that the PLO nominated Hanna Sinyurah in 1985 and that the PLO has also conceded sovereignty over Jerusalem. And I think this a dirty game of playing politics, that's why I am saying here too that the PLO's reaction to my proposal was very mild-mannered, and they distanced [themselves] from my proposal because the Jordanian papers were trying to play a dirty game of politics by saying that the PLO has conceded sovereignty over Jerusalem through association with my proposal.

['Abadi] What exactly, Mr Sinyurah, do you want to do? Do you want to put a mirror in front of the Israelis, to tell them this is what will happen if you annex the West Bank?

[Sinyurah] Well, I want two things: one of them is to create public awareness where it has to count in the Israeli public, that two people exist in Jersualem, that we have to face the facts, that if we want real peace, real peace means satisfying the needs of the two people who exist in Jerusalem; and I am calling for and working for a two-state solution between the two people who live in the same homeland. We can have either the present status quo, which means that there is one people who have full rights, the Israeli people, and another people who is disenfranchised, and this would lead to a situation similar to South Africa. Or we can have partition, the same homeland for the two people who live in it, and in the case of Jerusalem I am not calling for dividing Jerusalem again.

What I am saying is that I want to see Jerusalem an open, undivided city, but at the same time catering to the two people who are living in them, the Palestinians and the Israelis, and in this way dual sovereignty for the two people who live there. There is a living example of a Palestinian people who have not abandoned their home, their hometown. They are living there and the demography shows that in 1967 the Palestinians were 65,000 Palestinians in Jerusalem; today in 1987 the Palestinians are over 133,000 Palestinians.

[Vessely] So the initiative can only succeed. If it is rejected you will prove your point.

[Sinyurah] Well, actually I want to prove my point by participating. I hope that in the Knesset the Likud will not be able to legislate to disenfranchise me and I also hope and I think that legal experts will say that my proposal doesn't infringe our sovereignty.

['Abadi] Did you consult any senior members in the PLO about your initiative?

[Sinyurah] Well, to tell the truth, this is a local proposal from Palestinians like myself who have felt that at the moment we have an impasse in the peace process. Mr Shamir doesn't want peace, he has vetoed the international conference. We are wasting 3 precious years out of the lives of both Palestinians and Israelis, and in the meantime we have to create local political activists, and this is part of this activity coming from the Palestinian part.

['Abadi] Let's say that you are in the municipality of Jerusalem. How do you see the day-by-day life, working for the people of Jerusalem?

[Sinyurah] Well, let us say that tomorrow a Palestinian list exists in the municipality. There are issues of housing — in West Jerusalem we see housing encouraged by the municipality and the state, while we see Palestinians have no chance of finding backing for housing because the Palestinian has no credit. So in this particular field the Palestinians can do a lot to build up at least 10,000 housing units for young Palestinians who don't have homes at the moment.

['Abadi] Do you see, for instance, yourself going to a coalition with the extreme religious people in Jerusalem?

[Sinyurah] Well, I don't commit myself, I want to better serve coexistence. But I can give you an example of what coalitions can mean, and here I said that I would like to be as influential as the religious parties are doing at the moment in the Knesset; when the religious parties back the Likud the Likud are on top, when they back the Labor Party the Labor Party is on top, so let us take an example that my list would back secular issues in Jerusalem. And you know in this field the importance of building a stadium in Jerusalem and how the Orthodox community is against it. So if the Palestinian list backs the issue of a stadium, that means a stadium is going to be built in Jerusalem.

And take the other side of the coin — if the Palestinian list backs Orthodox issues, and you know that on the Shabbat, on Saturday, the orthodox community wants to stop traffic in Jerusalem, not only in the Me'a She'arim [ultra-orthodox neighborhood] area but in the whole of West Jerusalem, so if the Palestinian list backs such a case that means no traffic in West Jerusalem on Saturday, on the Shabbat.

[Vessely] How many seats do you hope to get?

[Sinyurah] If we translate what is realistic, in the last municipal elections in 1983 the Palestinian vote was 12.5 percent, which accounted to almost 3 and 1/2 seats. If a Palestinian list can double that vote that means 25 percent, it means the Palestinian list can have 7 seats in the 31-member council, that means the Palestinian list will be number 2, even ahead of the Likud faction.

['Abadi] Now when you are going to this business of municipality of Jerusalem can you evaluate Mr Teddy Kollek as a mayor? [sentence as heard]

[Sinyurah] Well, here I want to say that I want to evaluate his actions in two ways. Politically I differ with him. He is for having full sovereignty over Jerusalem for one people, for Israel, and I am calling for sovereignty over Jerusalem for the two people who live in the city. At the same time I think I can also give better services to the East Jerusalem residents with the taxes they are paying.

[Vessely] This is the only evaluation that you can...

[Sinyurah interrupts] Well, let me say also that I have once congratulated Mayor Teddy Kollek on a courageous act he did. Just a few months ago when there were disturbances by the yeshiva students in the old city of Jerusalem he came out valiantly against hooliganism on the part of the yeshiva students and I took the phone and called him at home and said that I appreciate this stand, and he jokingly said what did I do wrong.

['Abadi] How do you see also your life in the municipality of Jerusalem? Will you spend your life there in the opposition, using it as a political stage?

[Sinyurah] Well, I said that I have two main issues, one political, which is to bring awareness in Israel that two people live in Jerusalem and that the Palestinian people want sovereignty over their part of the city. At the same time I said that I will work for better services for the whole community that resides in Jerusalem.

['Abadi] Mr Sinyurah, thank you for coming to our studio, and good morning to you.

[Sinyurah] Thank you, bye-bye.

Nusaybah Explains Opposition

TA150443 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Text] Hundreds of Palestinians and a number of left-wing Israelis yesterday marched peacefully through the streets of East Jerusalem to protest against Israeli occupation. It was the first time that Palestinians had sought and received police permission for a protest of this kind. One of the leaders of the organizing group, the Committee Confronting the Iron Fist, Prof Sari Nusaybah, said their aim was to get as many people as possible onto the streets to protest the occupation. Nusaybah is also the author of the idea of Palestinians contesting elections in Israel, and reporter Steve Rodan asked him why then we was opposed to Hanna Sinyurah's initiative to run for a seat on the Jerusalem Municipal Council.

[Begin recording] [Nusaybah] You see, in my case the whole proposition is conditional; in his case, it seemed much more practical. In my case it is conditional in the sense that I propose that if the occupation does not end and if we are not able to establish our own state with East Jerusalem as its capital, then the other alternative would be to call for the establishment of a binational state and, within the context of calling on a binational state, to ask for rights throughout the Israeli system in all kinds of levels. I don't think it's correct to try and confuse between the two ideas, I think.

[Rodan] There seems to be a unity of divergent views regarding Sinyurah's proposal. Supporters of the PLO, including the PLO, have come out against it; supporters of Jordan, including Jordan, have come out against it. Is there a fear by outside interests of a local Palestinian leadership rising up in Jerusalem that would have some sort of legitimacy simply by the number of votes it gets from Arabs?

[Nusaybah] I doubt it; I don't think so. But, you know, it's a proposal which...I mean, Sinyurah proposed something which is totally in opposition to what people have been used to, and so it requires a lot of thinking. You know, it's a shocking proposal. This is the main problem with it. I think that if he had something to say he should have said it slowly, he should have said it to discuss it, we should have analyzed it at more length. Had he done this, and had it become or had it seemed more acceptable from the Arab point of view, the Arabs would have gone along with it. [end recording]

Jordanian Reaction Assessed

TA151339 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 15 Jun 87 p 6

[Commentary by Pinhas 'Inbari: "The 'Bombshell' That Upset Husayn"]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Why has Jordan's rejection of Hanna Sinyurah's initiative been so acute, blatant, and almost hysterical? Because Jordan felt or feared that the Palestinians were about to deal it a blow below the belt and deny it one of the main tools it wants to use in the political process. Jordan has time and again declared its willingness to make peace and enter political negotiations with Israel. Indeed, Jordan's peace-seeking image has awarded it immediate political profits both in Israel — as attested to by the moves made with Israel's help to strengthen Jordan's status in Jerusalem and the territories — and in the United States.

The question is whether Jordan really feels self-confident enough to reopen the "Palestinian file" in a comprehensive political process in view of the Palestinian sensitivities in the East Bank and the PLO's firm grip in the West Bank. This is the really big question. So, how does one strive for peace and at the same time thwart it? The Jordanian strategy is to take part in the political process while preparing an escape exit through the back door. [passage omitted]

The issue of Jerusalem is King Husayn's main escape exit from the larger political process. One should not for a minute doubt the devotion of the Hashemite dynasty to Jerusalem. There is no doubt that this issue will be the subject of some of the toughest and most fundamental deliberations by any Arab government in the future. That is why it would only seem natural for Jordan to renege on any agreement with Israel over this question.

This is why Jordan is so angry with Sinyurah and this is why the PLO's reaction has been nothing out of the ordinary. (Incidentally, the PLO's prolonged silence before it reacted at least legitimized the argument evoked by Sinyurah.) Sinyurah closed Jordan's main escape exit! It turns out that, when the day comes, the Palestinians will be prepared to pick up the dialogue with Israel from the point at which Jordan leaves off. Ilyas Frayj, almost the only one who came out in support of Sinyurah (along with Ahmad Harb, a lecturer at Hebron University) once again proved that although he is considered pro-Jordanian, he is more concerned about Palestinian interests than Jordan's most sensitive interests. He favors a resumption of the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue more than he supports Jordan.

An analysis of the attitude of the Palestinians and of Jordan toward Jerusalem shows that the Palestinians have usually been more flexible. Back at the time of the argument over municipal elections, Jordan objected vehemently, contrary to its supporters in the territories, and argued fervently that elections only in the West Bank, while giving up on Arab Jerusalem, were tantamount to recognizing the fact of annexation.

To this day, Jordan boycotts any Arab attorney appearing in Israeli courts while the Palestinians, particularly those in more radical circles such as Bassam al-Shak'ah, have been the first ones to make appeals to the Israeli Supreme Court.

On the issue of the Arab electric company, Jordan came out very firmly against the supply of power to Jewish neighborhoods while the PLO gave its permission.

Jordanian diplomats were the most adamant in their objection to the Israeli law on Jerusalem in particular, and to the Israeli presence in East Jerusalem in general, and they take quite a bit of credit for the departure of the last foreign representatives from the Israeli capital. The thought of running for the municipal elections in Jerusalem, which implies permission to foreign representations to fly their flags in Jerusalem and which constitutes a Palestinian signal to Israel that an agreement with the PLO is better than an agreement with Jordan, was conceived by Palestinians. Sinyurah threw the political bombshell, but the thought had been conceived by Dr Sari Nusaybah with a view to attaining a secular democratic state. It is no coincidence that the PLO repeated the formula of a binational state after the final collapse of the agreement with Jordan. After all, if one talks of a binational state, Jerusalem could be a capital for both people.

If pragmatic circles within the PLO are angry with Sinyurah, this anger is less directed at the idea than at the failing strategy. Such a sensitive issue should have been coordinated with other circles of PLO supporters before being publicized; this issue had already been discussed in East Jerusalem. Sinyurah's surprise lies in the fact that he "stole the show."

This means that Jordan had reason to be worried. The PLO's willingness to meet Israel halfway by means of functional arrangements the likes of which Jordan cannot propose may make Israeli politicions become aware that the PLO might ultimately be a better interlocutor than Jordan.

Weizman Praises Initiative

TA161722 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Minister without portfolio 'Ezer Weizman says he supports the participation of PLO representatives at an international peace conference on condition that the organization recognizes Israel. Speaking at a Labor Party gathering in Jerusalem, Weizman warned that Israel would find itself in a state of war unless it acted soon to advance the peace process. Weizman added that he does not reject the possible division of Jerusalem into boroughs similar to London as a possible solution. He also praised Hanna Sinyurah on his initiative to run in the Jerusalem municipal elections.

Likud's Meridor Welcomes Bid

TA170819 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 10 Jun 87 p A4

[Report by 'Ofra Yeshu'a-lyth]

[Excerpt] In Washington yesterday, Knesset Member Dan Meridor said the report that a Palestinian Arab, Hanna Sinyurah, had announced his intention "to run" for elections to the Jerusalem municipality is "the most gladdening report I have heard in recent years."

Meridor, who gave a lecture to an audience of academics, orientalists, government officials, and media representatives at the Brookings Institute in the U.S. capital, asserted, in response to a question, that the Palestinians' decision to take an active part in the democratic process of elections in Israel is a good sign. It is an additional sign of the slow but gradual improvement in Jewish-Arab relations in the region over the 20 years which have elapsed since the 6-Day War. Most of those who posed questions, including the moderator of the debate, Dr Judith Kipper of the Brookings Institute, complained that Meridor did not address himself to questions on the Palestinian issue, describing the peace process as a matter concerning Israel, Jordan, and Egypt alone. [passage omitted).

Air Force Attacks 'Terrorist' Targets in Lebanon

TA171011 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1000 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Here is an announcement by the IDF spokesman: Air Force helicopters attacked a building in the village of Qabrikhah in southern Lebanon this morning. As stated, this has been announced by the IDF spokesman. All the helicopters returned safely and the pilots reported good hits on the target. The building had served as a place where Hizballah members prepared for attacks on the security zone.

At around noon, Air Force planes attacked a terrorist target southeast of Sidon. All our planes returned safely and the pilots reported accurate hits. The target had served as a command headquarters for terrorist organizations and was located in a building on the outskirts of the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp.

Al-Masri on Peace Efforts, Arab Issues

JN160941 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 16 Jun 87 pp 1, 22

[Exclusive Report]

[Text] Paris — Foreign Affairs Minister Tahir al- Masri has said that rejecting direct negotiations with Israel is one of the constants of Jordanian policy and Israel knows this quite well. Hence, Israel focuses on direct negotiations because if it were to acheive that objective, it would realize most of its other objectives.

Al-Masri added that Jordan can only negotiate on the basis of UN Security Council Resolution No 242 and Palestinians must be represented as a party in the negotiations.

In an interview with the Paris-based magazine *Al-Yawm al-Sabi'*, Al-Masri said: Jordan recognizes the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Jordan also believes that the UN secretary general must extend a separate invitation to the PLO to attend the international conference. This is a constant Jordanian stand.

Al-Masri said that the international conference is an attempt to implement the peace plan drawn up by the Arabs in various meetings, especially the Fes summit. He added that what is required is to implement this peace plan without undermining the basic constants concerning the territories and the individual.

When asked whether the recent escalation in the Gulf region has caused the international conference idea to retreat, the foreign affairs minister said: We must reiterate once again that the international conference remains the only way or mechanism to reach a peaceful settlement in the region. We believe this to be the case regardless of recent developments and whether or not these developments concern the division plaguing the Israeli Government and regardless of the military escalation of tension in the Gulf. We believe this irrespective of whether or not this were to slow the momentum of the idea of convening the proposed international conference. The concept of an international conference led to the developments currently taking place in Israel. The efforts being exerted by Jordan and some other Arab and non-Arab states have contributed to this advanced phase of acceptance of the international conference formula. As a result, the Israeli Cabinet and Israeli public opinion are divided. However, no one can yet know for sure how things will proceed in Israel. We do not know whether or not Shamir will continue to be the prime minister and object to the conference or whether Shim'on Peres will prevail. In other words, it is impossible to predict whether the Israeli Government will be dissolved and new Knesset elections held. This would revive hopes of convening this conference.

Regarding the escalation of tension in the Gulf, Al-Masri said: We still believe that what is taking place there may be a stronger incentive to the two superpowers. It may motivate them to increase efforts to ease tension and restore tranquillity not only in the Gulf but in the Middle East in general. I believe that events following the *Stark* incident were imposed on the United States and the Soviet Union. They were not in line with the wishes of the two superpowers. Therefore, I believe that if the escalation is dealt with cautiously and with goodwill from both sides and all other parties, the region will find itself at a suitable threshold for ending the conflict and this bloody war.

Al-Masri added: Despite the stumbling peace efforts, we have continued to adhere to our consistent policy. We have not changed our stands. We have not made any concessions. At issue is the Arab-Israeli conflict. There are various parties involved in this complicated conflict, which continues to get even more complicated. These parties must participate in the international conference. The absence of any party could prevent the convening of such a conference. In light of all this, the issue must be viewed practically and logically. All the parties which would attend the conference cannot discuss all aspects of the Arab-Israeli conflict during the conference sessions. Consequently, there is no alternative to the formation of working bilateral or geographic committees. This would help divide and specify the work of the conference and its deliberations. This is what usually takes place at all meetings and conferences. However, we perceive this issue differently than the Israelis.

Al-Masri continued: This difference concerns our final objectives and those of Israel. Israel seeks to hold direct negotiations with us without any preconditions. This means that these negotiations would not be held on the basis of international legitimacy. We reject this logic. We believe that our negotiations with Israel either at the conference itself or in its subcommittees must be based on international legitimacy. This legitimacy must be represented by UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 which speak of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territories by force and also call for Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories. This is the principle on which our objectives are defined and specified.

Responding to a question on U.S.-Israel contacts with figures from the occupied territories and on reports that these figures would play a representative role once the international conference is convened, Al-Masri said: I believe that these figures are committed to the belief which stipulates that the PLO is the sole,legitimate representative of the Palestinians. I also believe that these figures will not accept representation except through the PLO. I do not think that these figures are submitting proposals that conflict with the PLO's ideas. However, some of these figures blame and criticize certain PLO stands.

The Jordanian foreign affairs minister added: Each party must realize that it is not the only party in the equation. Each party must also realize that its obstinacy toward the world and its insistence that its conditions be met will prevent any solution to the conflict.

Replying to a question on the parliamentary elections, the preparations for which are currently underway, and whether these elections undermine Palestinian representation, Al-Masri affirmed: This is not correct. And if elections were to be held, they would be held for constitutional reasons concerning Jordan and not for reasons related to the Palestinians. He added: The Palestinian representation in the Jordanian House of Representatives is not designed to qualify Jordan to act as a substitute for the PLO, nor is it designed to allow Jordan to compete with the PLO. Furthermore, this representation is not designed to

allow Jordan to play a parallel role with that of the PLO. He asserted that Israel seeks to utilize any opportunity to cause a legal or constitutional vacuum in the West Bank. This would allow it to do everything it wants. Al-Masri wondered: Is dropping the West Bank's representation at the House of Representatives one of their demands? I believe that Yasir 'Arafat himself would not accept this because it would create a final constitutional vacuum for both Israel and the United Nations. And this is what Israel seeks to achieve as it claims that the West Bank is not Arab territory.

UN's Marrack Goulding Pays 2-Day Visit

Arrives in Amman

JN152009 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Text] Amman — Marrack Goulding, assistant UN secretary general for political affairs, accompanied by Jean-Claude Aime, assistant UN secretary general for special political affairs, arrived in Amman this evening on a 2-day visit to Jordan. He will meet with a number of senior Jordanian officials. Goulding told PETRA-JNA that his tour of the region came at the request of the UN secretary general who asked that he acquaint himself with the views of the region's countries and interested parties regarding the convening of an international peace conference on the Middle East. He is also supposed to hold talks with interested parties on matters pertaining to convening this conference. He was received at the airport by Jordan's UN representative 'Abdallah Salah, the director of international relations at the Foreign Ministry, and a number of officials.

Meets With Al-Rifa'i

JN161350 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1100 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i this morning received in his office Marrack Goulding, deputy UN secretary general for political affairs, and Jean-Claude Aime, assistant UN secretary general for special political affairs. They discussed Mideast developments and efforts being made to convene an international peace conference.

Al-Rifa'i emphasized Jordan's support for a UN-sponsored international conference to be attended by all parties to the dispute plus the five permament members of the Security Council. Al-Rifa'i said that peace in the region cannot be achieved except through an international conference, which is the most appropriate forum for working out a comprehensive, just, and permanent settlement. The intransigent Israeli stand rejecting an international conference is the major stumbling block to peace in the Mideast, the prime minister added. The meeting was attended by 'Abdallah Salah, Jordan's permanent UN representative.

Received by King Husayn

JN161603 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn received Marrack Goulding, UN assistant secretary general for political affairs, and Jean-Claude Aime, his assistant, at the Al-Nadwah Palace this afternoon along with His Highness Crown Prince Hasan. His majesty expressed Jordan's support for the UN secretary general's efforts to prepare the appropriate atmosphere for an international conference on peace in the Middle East to be attended by all the parties concerned, as well as the permanent UN Security Council members. His majesty affirmed that Jordan believes that this conference is the only way to achieve a just and honorable peace in the region. His majesty referred to Jordan's readiness to cooperate with the United Nations to convene an international conference.

Goulding conveyed to His Majesty King Husayn the UN secretary general's thanks and appreciation for his majesty's efforts and relentless endeavors on both Arab and international levels to find a just, durable, and honorable solution to the Middle East issue through an international conference. He also expressed appreciation for his majesty's continuous efforts and endeavors, particularly in the Middle East, to put an end to the Iraq-Iran war and praised his continuous warnings to the world of the dangers poised by this war to the region and world peace and the grave consequences if it continues.

Goulding reviewed for his majesty the latest developments in the efforts being made by the UN secretary general and his consultations with various parties to hold an international conference to achieve peace in the Middle East.

The meeting was attended by the prime minister, the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, the court minister, and Jordan's permanent UN representative.

Parliament Called Into Extraordinary Session

JN161251 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
16 Jun 87 pp 1, 21

[Excerpts] Amman — A royal decree has been issued calling parliament to an extraordinary session as of Saturday [20 June].

The parliament will discuss a number of topics, elect a member to fill the vacant Bethlehem seat in the House of Representatives,and discuss draft laws. [passage omitted]

The parliament's ordinary session opened at the beginning of November last year and concluded at the end of February this year.

Al-Jumayyil Discusses Assassination Investigation

NC161523 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1410 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil reaffirmed today that nobody, regardless of his position or importance, can enjoy immunity from the investigation into the assassination of Prime Minister Karami. He reiterated that the investigation should involve all who could be implicated and there could be no slackness in taking action against those implicated. The president declared that nobody is above the authority of the judiciary and the state. He stressed that it is important to maintain the dignity and the morale of the Army and to protect it from any infiltration.

The president met at noon with Finance Minister and former President Camille Sham'un, who later said that the people were concerned about three issues. He named these as daily living problems and the drop in the value of the Lebanese pound, the assassination of Prime Minister Karami and the investigation underway, and the political situation which the Syrians are trying to create through their contacts with Lebanese leaders in Damascus.

Mr Sham'un claimed that the public was concerned about the extent of Syrian interference in Lebanese affairs. He called for Syrian withdrawal and for greater attention to be given to daily living problems. Mr Sham'un stressed the need for a return to national dialogue and reconciliation.

After meeting with a delegation of clergymen, the president met early in the afternoon with the head of the Union of Journalists, Milhim Karam, who later spoke at length on his talks with the president. Mr Karam quoted the president as saying that Prime Minister Karami had exercised office and carried out his duties with a high sense of national dedication. He said that despite differences, the president realized that Prime Minister Karami had refrained from divulging secrets which could have split the nation, even though he could have gained popularity at the polls.

President al-Jumayyil described the late prime minister as a real statesman and a man who persisted in his pioneering search for ways of unifying the Lebanese. The president felt that agreement was [words indistinct] when the prime minister was assassinated. He believed that Prime Minister Karami would have urged the Lebanese to get together.

Mr Karam declared that the president was determined to do all that he could to ensure the investigation into the assassination continued vigorously, and he is equally determined not to allow anybody to benefit from his position and post by trying to escape investigation. At the same time, the president realized that the nation was facing serious economic problems, and he believed firmly that the only solution is for the legitimate authorities to assume their rightful control over the state institutions and facilities. The president again called for a unified effort by the Lebanese leaders to translate appeals for unity into action.

Interior Minister Remarks

NC161725 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1630 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Interior Minister Dr 'Abdallah al-Rasi stated today that the investigation [into Prime Minister Karami's assassination] has revealed where the helicopter was located when the bomb was introduced, as well as the type of device and how it was detonated. He said the investigations are proceeding slowly. We want the inquiry to be carried out quickly; we must deal with this important matter, he asserted.

Al-Rasi continued: I am interested in knowing not only the mercenary [assassin], but also who was behind this person or persons. In my capacity as an official, I will never remain silent in the face of negligence or carelessness in identifying the criminals.

Amal, PSP Differences Outlined in Syria Talks

NC160802 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 0500 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Excerpts] Intensive consultations are continuing in Damascus to reach agreement among all the anti-partition forces on a formula for joint national action. What exactly is the situation, and what has so far been accomplished in the Syrian capital? Our correspondent in Damascus has sent us the following report:

A senior Syrian leader has said that the loss of Prime Minister Karami should have shocked all the national leaders, exposing the triviality of their differences and the dangerous challenges facing them. Syria has an interest in confronting these challenges firmly and responsibly, because Karami's assassination was intended as a direct message to all leaders allied with Syria that they should detach themselves from this alliance. Karami's assassination also upset the political balance in favor of the adversaries of Syria and its allies, and this cannot be corrected without a serious joint effort by all the nationalist leaders.

Based on this view, the Syrian leader added, an invitation was sent to all the nationalist leaders to meet in Damascus for urgent consultations following the assassination. [passage omitted]

A prominent nationalist leader told our correspondent that Syria's chief efforts were concentrated on overcoming the differences between the Amal Movement and the PSP, particularly as Syria was involved in some of these differences, which led to tension in relations with PSP Leader Minister Junblatt. However, Minister Junblatt's attitude and behavior in the wake of the assassination of the martyred Prime Minister Rashid Karami were viewed with approval and appreciation by the Syrian leaders and removed many question marks. [passage omitted]

Minister Junblatt had already been in Damascus for 4 days when Minister Birri arrived. Last Tuesday evening, Speaker al-Husayni, acting Prime Minister al-Huss, Minister Birri, Minister Junblatt, and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad were due to meet. However, before holding a bilateral meeting with Minister Junblatt, Minister Birri stipulated that prior understanding must be reached on the points of dispute. Speaker al-Husayni also

refused to take part in a joint delegation with Junblatt following the latter's strident criticism of him. The appointment was postponed so that consultations could be continued. It was agreed to convene a committee composed of members of the Amal Movement and the parties to formulate the bases on which agreement could be reached. Representatives of the PSP, the Communist Party, and the Ba'th Party Organization proposed a national front charter for discussion. The Amal Movement representative agreed that the general principles contained in the charter could serve as the basis for a meeting, even one that included adversaries, because the daily political implementation of these principles would determine whether they were being seriously and faithfully adhered to. Four points constituting the fundamental differences between the Amal Movement and the PSP were outlined. If these differences could be resolved, a genuine alliance, rather than a folkloric one, could be restored. The basic differences are the following:

1. Relationship with the Lebanese Forces. Everyone knows that Minister Junblatt had earlier announced the formation of a committee to study the Halat Airport issue without consulting anyone, not even the martyred Prime Minister. This took place at the height of the campaign against Karami. Reports were also circulated about meetings, deals, and so forth. Is it permissible, in view of the differences with the regime, to proceed toward an alliance with a worse adversary, the Zionist party in the Lebanese arena -- that is, the Lebanese Forces -- even as a tactical move? [passage omitted]

2. Resistance to the occupation. It is impermissible that the Amal Movement and Hizballah should shoulder the burden of the resistance alone, and that the villages of the south should be destroyed and burned down and their people displaced. [passage omitted] Why does silence prevail in the Kafr Falus-Batir front, which faces the occupation forces along a 45-km line, and where suitable topographical conditions for guerrilla warfare exist? The participation of everyone in the resistance is a sacred right. But when? Everyone must have an equally credible position toward the resistance first. The Kafr Falus-Batir front is under the control of the PSP and its allies, the Communist Party, the Syrian Social Nationalist Party, and the Nasirite Popular Organization. It is time for all these to assume the responsibility of opening this front to resist the occupation and step up operations to the level that exists on the Al-Naqurah-Sujud front. [passage omitted]

3. Attitudes toward Yasir 'Arafat. The attack on the abrogation of the Cairo agreement serves to defend neither the national existence of the Palestinian people nor their civil rights. The role of the Palestinian resistance can be ensured by a joint operations room. This is what we call for. Civil rights can be ensured through political action to establish them. This is what we will do. [passage omitted]

4. The relationship with Syria. This relationship defines the measure of seriousness in exercising the national role. It is impermissible for us to talk about alliance with Syria today and then tomorrow declaim (?unrestrainedly) from rostrums and address speeches which become commentaries on the Lebanese Forces television. The relationship with Damascus is subject to differences of view. However, there should be prior agreement that these differences will not allow anyone to act unilaterally, doing whatever he likes and establishing alliances behind the scenes, one day with 'Arafat and the next with Al-Qadhdhafi, as happened during the Beirut battles last February. This atmosphere produced people like Abu Shu'ayb, Abu Haytham [persons accused by Syria of responsibility for recent explosions in West Beirut], and others like them. Therefore, seriousness and credibility must be measured by purging the ranks of anti-Syrian elements and of those suspected of maintaining relations with 'Arafat, Israeli intelligence, and so forth.

Regarding the Communist Party, the Amal Movement leaders affirmed their willingness to restore the situation to normal, provided the Communist Party issues a clear statement of the Amal Movement's innocence in the murder of the late martyr Husayn Muruwwah. The Communist Party has made statements abroad, accusing the Amal Movement of responsibility for the crime. [passage omitted]

The nationalist leader then said that these points are now under discussion. [passage omitted] Understanding has been reached on the principles, and a final draft is being formulated. A provisional draft on the issues of Halat and the Cairo agreement has been prepared. Work is continuing regarding the last two points. [passage omitted]

The nationalist leader said he expected that the expanded Islamic summit, which will be held in Damascus, will serve as the basis for a national conference to be held in Tripoli. This conference is to be attended by national and party representatives and leaders, with the goal of producing a unified charter for national action in the coming stage. In this stage, we must deal with the aftermath of the Karami assassination, foil the partition scheme, and face the presidential election deadline. [passage omitted]

Persons close to Minister Birri told our correspondent in Damascus that a broad national front should emerge from the house of the martyred Prime Minister Rashid Karami and should be presided over by former president Sulayman Franjiyah. We might disagree with Franjiyah on some points related to political reform, but he is the most important pillar for the defense of Lebanon's unity and Arabism, and maintains the same course; that is, ending the war, dissolving the militias, extending the Syrian security plan to all parts of Lebanon, and convening a national conference to agree on a new system and an alternative constitution. Minister Birri's meetings with Elie Hubayqah and 'Isam al-Mahayri and future contacts that he may have fall within this framework.

Informed political sources say that the national conference is expected to result in the formation of a higher command composed of former president Sulayman Franjiyah, Speaker Husayn al-Husayni, acting Prime Minister Salim al-Huss, Minister Birri, Minister Junblatt, and Attorney 'Umar Karam. There will also be a field command, composed of representatives of the national parties and forces, whose task will be to pursue the daily struggle. The success of the dialogue between the Amal Movement and the PSP in formulating the principles of joint action will ensure the success of the second stage of action.

The sources expect a meeting to take place between Ministers Birri and Junblatt during the expanded Islamic summit session,

due to be held in the next 24 hours. The purpose of the meeting is to reach understanding on the remaining points of differences. [passage omitted]

Israelis Raid Palestinian Positions Near Sidon

NC171001 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0946 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] At 1210 today, Israeli warplanes carried out three raids against Palestinian positions to the east of the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp near Sidon and Tallat Sirub. According to preliminary reports, one person was wounded.

Further on Israeli Raid

NC171032 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 Gmt 17 Jun 87

[Text] Eight Israeli warplanes raided Al-Miyah wa Miyah and the nearby villas area in the south shortly after midday today, causing human casualties and material losses.

Reports indicate that the 10-minute raid was targeted against a training base belonging to the Ahmad Jibril-led PFLP-GC in the villas area on the outskirts of Sirub.

Ambulances were seen moving to the scene immediately after the raid. According to preliminary reports, one person was killed and seven wounded in the attack.

Resistance Ambushes Truck

NC171202 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] The Martyr Hasan Dawud group of the Amal battalions led an armed ambush on the Al-Turrah-al-Suwayda' road at 1120 this morning. The group members attacked a passing Israeli military truck with rockets and machineguns, completely destroying the vehicleand killing its crew of six soldiers.

Another resistance group then shelled the Al-Turrahal-Suwayda' post with 82- and 60-mm mortar shells, scoring direct hits and inflicting casualties. The resistance men returned safely to their base.

Following this operation, the occupation forces shelled the city of Al-Nabatiyah and the towns of Kafr Rumman and 'Arab Salim, wounding several people.

Visit by Iranian Economy, Commerce Ministers

Ministers Arrive

NC150742 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that Minister of Commerce Abedi-Ja'fari and Minister of Economy and Finanace Mohammad Javad Iravani arrived in Damascus at midnight last night. Syrian officials gave them an official welcome.

The same report states that our two ministers are to attend the fifth session of the joint Syrian-Iranian committee. This committee meets annually to study developments in bilateral relations in the political, economic, commercial, petroleum, monetary, and cultural fields.

Economic Talks Begin

LD161829 Tehran IRNA in English 1816 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Damascus, June 16, IRNA — First round of economic talks between Iran and Syria opened here today with the two countries stressing on further expansion of bilateral economic cooperation.

During the talks attended by Iranian Economic Minister Hasan Abedi-Ja'fari and of Finance and Economic Affairs Mohammad Javad Iravani, the two sides decided that separate committees would review Tehran-Damascus economic, financial, trade, industrial, tourist and energy fields ties over a period of three days.

The progress achieved by the already reached agreements with regard to a letter of understanding inked by the two countries in 1985 were also studied in the session.

Ja'fari and Iravani arrived here last Sunday.

Al-Shar' Receives Iran's Rafiqdust, Sheykholeslam

JN162041 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Damascus — Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' this evening received Mohsen Rafiqdust, Iranian minister of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps. Iranian Assistant Foreign Minister Sheykholeslam and Iran's ambassador in Damascus also attended the session. Talks revolved around bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest.

USSR's Katushev Continues Economic Talks

Received by Al-Kasm

JN161443 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1404 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Damascus, 16 Jun (SANA) — Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm received here today Konstantin Katushev, chairman of the Soviet State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations. They talked about the solid friendly relations and continuing close cooperation between Syria and the USSR in political, economic, scientific, technical, and other areas. They also discussed the wide scope of the current effective cooperation between the two friendly countries.

Katushev expressed his country's firm and abiding support for Syria. He said that Syria is pursuing free, nationalist policies and is determined to implement its effective development programs.

For his part, Dr al-Kasm expressed Syria's deep appreciation for Soviet support for Syria and the Arab nation.

Meets With Khaddam

JN161809 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam has received Konstantin Katushev, chairman of the Soviet State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations and CPSU Central Committee member, and his accompanying delegation. The meeting was attended by Dr Sabah Baqjaji, minister of state for planning, and the Soviet ambassador in Damascus. They discussed bilateral relations in various fields and reviewed talks between the Soviet delegation and Syrian ministers on developing economic relations between the two countries.

Katushev emphasized the Soviet Union's deep appreciation for Syria and its nationalist, progressive policies. He stressed that Moscow supports these policies. The vice president expressed Syria's interest in expanding Syrian-Soviet ties in various areas on the bases of the talks President al-Asad held with Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU, and members of the Soviet leadership. Khaddam also voiced Syria's deep appreciation for the support extended by the Soviet Union to Syria and the Arab causes.

Oil Official Receives Soviet Counterpart

JN161501 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1435 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Damascus, 16 Jun (SANA) — Eng Dr Nadir al-Nabulsi, assistant minister of oil and mineral wealth for oil affairs, today received the members of a Soviet delegation, led by the USSR assistant oil minister, who are currently visiting Syria. High-ranking officials of the Syrian Oil Company were also present. They discussed the implementation of oil cooperation protocols between the two countries, with special emphasis on the export of Soviet oil equipment to Syria. Both sides expressed the wish to further develop bilateral cooperation in the interest of their peoples and countries.

USSR Parliamentary Delegation Arrives 16 Jun

JN170757 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Arnold Ryuytel, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, arrived in Damascus last night. He is heading

a parliamentary delegation on a 4-day visit to Syria at the invitation of People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi.

Ryuytel expressed happiness at visiting friendly Syria, which enjoys firm, friendly relations with the USSR. He said: We still remember the deep impression left by President Hafiz al-Asad when he visited the USSR a short time ago and talked with Soviet officials. This visit proved that the two countries constitute one front of struggle against the imperialist forces. Al-Asad's visit was evidence that the USSR and Syria are waging the same battle for the sake of liberation, peace, saving humanity from a nuclear catastrophe, and achieving just solutions to world conflicts, including that of the Middle East.

Ryuytel stressed that President Al-Asad's visit to Moscow had created new avenues in all areas of cooperation for promoting relations between the two friendly countries. He also stressed the importance of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium delegation's visit to Syria. He said: We aspire for constructive, fruitful talks with the Syrian comrades. We intend to promote parliamentary relations and to review developments and achievements in both countries on all levels. We also want to acquaint ourselves with the conditions of the Syrian people's struggle at this stage under the brave leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad.

Construction Minister Given No-Confidence Vote

JN162031 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Excerpt] Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi presided over a session of the People's Assembly this evening that was attended by several ministers. At the beginning of the session, the People's Assembly was acquainted with the no-confidence motion against Construction Minister Riyad Baghdadi. The motion was submitted by some assembly members in accordance with the provisions of the constitution and the People's Assembly bylaws. Discussions during a previous session had not resulted in a no-confidence motion in view of the minister's replies to the questions put to him on his negligence and dereliction of duty in following up his ministry's activities. He was also questioned on the activities of the establishments and companies affiliated with his ministry. Assembly members also questioned his responsibility for not tackling the great waste in actual production capacity with regard to machinery, manpower, and work organization. This has resulted in a drop in the implementation rate of the set plans and an increase in costs.

In accordance with Article 64 of the People's Assembly bylaws, voting on the motion began by publicly calling for a vote of no-confidence against the minister of construction. The no-confidence motion against the minister was passed with a majority of 152 votes out of 195 votes. On the basis of this result and in accordance with Article 72 of the constitution, the minister in question; that is, the minister of construction, must tender his resignation. [passage omitted]

Officials Condemn Downing of Passenger Plane
LD170805 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0430 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Kabul, June 15, *Bakhtar* — A press conference was held here in connection with crashing of an Afghan passenger plane by the extremists over the airspace of Shah Juy district in Zabol Province on June 11.

At the outset of the conference, Farid Zarif, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the DRA, described the shooting down of the plane as a shocking and inhuman crime which proves that the false slogans of imperialism and reaction on the so-called protection of human rights is nothing but a mere lie.

Then, Mohammad 'Aziz Negahban, minister of civil aviation, described the attack on the passenger plane which led to the death of the innocent people and produced intimidation among the people as against the accepted international norms of civil aviation. The United States and its allies, he said, are responsible number one for the mishap.

Similarly, Abdorrahim Hatef, chairman of the Central Council of National Front, said that the opposition extremists under the instruction of imperialist and reactionary circles are willing to slow down the implementation of the process of national reconciliation.

A number of other speakers including deputy chairman of Women and Mothers of the Martyrs of the Path of Revolution and president of the Lawyers Association of the DRA in their speeches described the attack on the passenger plane as against the human rights and human dignity.

Former King Ready To Restore Independence, Freedom
AU151322 Paris AFP in English 1309 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Excerpt] Paris, June 15 (AFP) — Deposed Afghan King Zahir Shah said he was ready to act for the "restoration of the independence" and "freedoms" of the Afghan people without personal claim, in an interview published here Monday. Soviet-backed Afghan leader Najibullah said last week he was prepared to hold talks with supporters of the monarchy in a bid to form a coalition government.

King Zahir Shah, who has been living in exile in Italy since he was overthrown by a military coup in 1973, told the French newsletter *Defense Active* that "a political settlement acceptable by the Afghan people" was possible with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. Soviet troops moved into Afghanistan in December 1979.

Asked if he was prepared to take any responsibilty in the search of a settlement, the king said that "without personal claim, I am entirely and without condition devoted to the service of the Afghan nation" in its struggle for "the restoration of national independence, freedoms and right to self-determination of the Afghan people."

King Zahir Shah said the current indirect talks in Geneva between Pakistan and Afghanistan on the conflict should be "expanded further to include all the parties involved." [passage omitted]

Keshtmand Receives Visiting Indian Minister
LD162011 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Comrade Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, met with His Excellency Mohammad Yunis Khan, minister of state for commerce affairs and head of the Department of International Exhibition of the Republic of India, at the DRA Council of Ministers headquarters this morning. The Indian official recently arrived in Kabul on a friendly visit.

At this meeting, which took place in a friendly atmosphere, views were exchanged on the consolidation of friendly relations between the DRA and the Republic of India, as well as on the expansion of commercial and economic relations. Present at this meeting were DRA Commerce Minister Mohammad Khan Jalalar and His Excellency Inder Pal Khosla, ambassador and extraordinary representative of the Republic of India in Kabul.

According to another report, His Excellency Mohammad Yunis Khan arrived in Kabul for an official visit this morning.

At Kabul International Airport he was welcomed by Commerce Minister Mohammad Khan Jalalar, Inder Pal Khosla, ambassador and extraordinary representative of India to Kabul, and a number of officials from the Ministery of Commerce.

Khawiani Departs for PDRY Party Conference
LD152136 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Text] Comrade Najmuddin Khawiani, candidate member of the Politburo, secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, and head of the party's International Affairs Department, left for Aden, the capital of the PDRY, this afternoon. He is heading a delegation at the invitation of the Yemen Socialist Party to attend that party's conference.

At Kabul International Airport, Comrade Khawiani was seen off by Farid Ahmad Mazdak, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the DYOA Central Committee; the deputy head of the International Affairs Department of the PDPA Central Committee; and Inder Pal Khosla, Indian [name and country as heard] ambassador in Kabul.

PDPA National Conference To Be Held Aug-Sep
LD170806 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0506 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Kabul, June 16, *Bakhtar* — The nation-wide conference of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, PDPA, is to be

held during the months of August-September, 1987, in Kabul city.

This is stated in a resolution adopted on June 10, 1987 by the plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the PDPA about the convocation of the nation-wide conference of the PDPA, published in daily *Haqiqat-e Enqelab-e Sawr* here today.

The plenum's resolution specifies that subsequent strategies of the PDPA on national reconciliation, formulation of the constitution of the DRA, assessment of the proposals of the party members about the holding of the second congress of the PDPA are among the subjects to be studied and discussed at the nation-wide party conference.

Wide preparation for the conference should be taken. The significance of the subjects to be deliberated at the conference should be explained and talks on the conference be organised among different groups and states of the people, the resolution instructs.

Special commissions are to be set up in the framework of party committees of the provinces, cities, districts and villages. These commissions will be assigned to study the proposals and critiques of the party members and non-party people and to make them usable at the nation-wide party conference.

Security Forces Prevent Missile Attack on Kabul
LD161850 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Due to patriotic cooperation between the people of Pagh hman district and the security forces of the country, the perpetration of a criminal action by an extremist opposition group against the innocent people of Kabul city was prevented.

According to a BIA report, extremist elements associated with the opposition groups had positioned nine surface-to-surface missiles in Chawk-e Arghandeh to be fired at the residential areas of Kabul city. By launching these destructive and incendiary missiles, they intended to destroy a number of residential houses and to bloody our innocent compatriots.

The country's security forces, as demanded by the people and the National Reconciliation Commission of Paghman district, took action in order to prevent the crimes of the extremists, neutralized the missiles targeted at Kabul city, and seized them.

Hezb-e Eslami 'Extremists' Killed in Laghman
LD170827 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0436 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Kabul, June 16, *Bakhtar* — A number of extremists including Malik Qais [spelling as received] one of the notorious terrorists, ringleader of one of the group belonging to Hezb-e Eslami who used to carry looting and plundering in the high ways and disturbing the people's normal life were crushed in Laghman Province.

Prior to the crash [as received], the inhabitants of Farman Khail [spelling as received] tribe of the province got in touch with commission for national reconciliation and demanded the security forces to prevent the subversive deeds, terrorism and the looting of the said terrorist groups in the high ways.

Replying positively to the demand of the people, the security forces put on action their activities, and besieged the extremists group and asked them to surrender, but the said group resisted against, and replied negatively by firing.

Four extremists including Malik Qais the ringleader were killed and a large number of the group injured severely as a result of the action carried out by the security forces.

800 Soviet-Kabul Troops Killed Near Qandahar
BK161532 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] In Afghanistan, there are reports of fierce fighting between Afghan mujahidin and the Soviet-Kabul troops at Arghandab on the outskirts of Qandahar. At least 800 Soviet-Kabul troops are reported to have been killed or injured. The Afghan mujahidin have also reportedly shot down 13 aircraft and helicopters.

Tiwari Says PRC Border Talks 'Positive'

BK170314 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr M. D. Tiwari, has said that his talks in Beijing were positive and constructive toward resolving the border issue. Talking to our special correspondent at Delhi airport after his visits to Pyongyang, Moscow, and Beijing, he said there is better understanding of each other's point of view and position. Mr Tiwari said besides resolving the border dispute, both India and China are keen to strengthen bilateral relations in economic, cultural, and other spheres.

Border Police Arrest 2 PRC Technicians Near Nepal

BK170522 Hong Kong AFP in English
0517 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Kathmandu, June 17 (AFP) — Indian border police have arrested two Chinese technicians working in a World Bank financed hydro power project near the border between Nepal and India, officials said Wednesday. The officials said that the two technicians were arrested on Saturday at the town of Raxaul which is India's northern rail head lying 170 kilometres (106 miles) south of here.

The Chinese technicians working on the Marsyangdi hydro electric project in Nepal were arrested after they had gone on a sight-seeing trip to the Nepalese town of Birgunj, adjacent to Raxaul.

Gandhi Warns Against Bofors Deal Cancellation

BK161305 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Mr Rajiv Gandhi has said that the country cannot afford any laxity in defense preparedness. Addressing a Congress-I convention in Pune today, he said the recent tension on our borders was reduced only because the country was alert. Cautioning the people against the designs of external powers aimed at weakening the country, he said under no circumstances will they be allowed to succeed. He said sophisticated weapons are being acquired by neighboring countries and the big powers have gone to the extent of even changing their laws to facilitate this. He said the country's domestic and foreign policy is being strengthened to withstand these pressures.

Referring to the demand for the cancellation of the Bofors deal, Mr Gandhi reiterated his stand that its scrapping would weaken India's defense forces. He said Pakistan has already acquired advanced weaponry and the country cannot afford to disarm its soldiers.

Mr Gandhi welcomed the agreement on the dispatch of relief supplies to the suffering people of Jaffna. He hoped that the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka would be solved amicably, but expressed concern over the Sri Lankan Army action against the Tamils.

Mr Gandhi told the convention that the differences between him and the president, Giani Zail Singh, have been resolved.

Meets With Opposition

BK170925 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] The prime minister had a meeting with leaders of various parties and groups in parliament in New Delhi today. The report of the Swedish National Audit Bureau on the Bofors deal and India's humanitarian relief supplies for the people of Jaffna came up for discussion at the meeting. It was decided that the opposition will give its suggestions about the terms of reference of the proposed parliamentary committee which will go into the report of the Swedish National Audit Bureau.

Government Wants Bofors Information

BK160354 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] The government has decided to ask the Bofors Company to provide complete information about the payments made by it in the gun deal as mentioned in the report of the Swedish National Audit Bureau. A similar request is also being made to the Swedish Government.

The report, which was sent to the Government of India early this month, had referred to the claim of the Bofors Company that no middlemen were involved during the final phase of the negotiations. It may be recalled that the government, after considering the report, has requested the Lok Sabha speaker and the Rajya Sabha chairman to set up a joint parliamentary committee to examine it.

Former Minister Barred from Addressing Rally

BK151620 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Text] The former defense minister, Mr Viswanath Pratap Singh, says he was not allowed to address a rally at Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh today. He told newsmen that he had courted arrest following the administration's refusal to allow the rally to be held. However, the district authorities have denied this and said Mr Singh was not arrested.

Reagan Under 'Pressure' To Withdraw Gulf Stand

LD161858 Tehran IRNA in English 1839 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] London, June 16, IRNA — Pressure is said to be mounting upon the U.S. President to withdraw from his belligerent position on the Persian Gulf after having failed to gain unequivocal support at the Venice summit last week.

The Foreign Office in London indicated Monday that nothing transpired at the conference other than the joint statement issued and that Britain's policy in the Persian Gulf remained "unaltered on the ground."

In the summit declaration, the leaders of the 7 Western nations did little more than reaffirm the right of shipping in the Persian Gulf and agreed to sustain efforts through the United Nations to bring about an end to Iraq's war against Iran.

The Foreign Ministry [as received] spokesman told IRNA that there had been "no separate approach from Washington" to support Reagan's proposals for a military build-up in the region. "There were reports that Britain and other countries would be approached," he said, "but the fact is that we weren't."

The Foreign Office would not go as far as even voicing support for Reagan's plan to escort Kuwaiti tankers in the Persian Gulf, saying that it "never" commented on the activities of other countries.

Britain maintains an "armilla patrol" in the region consisting of two frigates, which plays a low profile in reassuring British ships sailing through the Strait of Hormuz. The patrol has reportedly escorted more than 100 British-flagged ships in the Persian Gulf this year and that it has a "relaxed and friendly radio dialogue with the Iranian Navy."

In contrast, American warships are said to be exhibiting their nervousness by warning Iranian planes to keep away from the moment they leave their bases.

Senior Democrats and some Republicans have expressed fears that America could be dragging itself into the Iraqi war and have urged the President to shelve his plans. Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Sam Nunn said that the U.S. escort plan represented a "strong tilt towards Iraq" in its war against Iran and that the policy was a mistake. He is demanding that Reagan delay his plans so that the whole of American policy in the region could be worked out.

Former secretary of state Henry Kissinger also claimed that Reagan was getting involved on the Iraqi side and was undertaking a "belligerent commitment" in the war not knowing how it would end up. From what he did know now, Kissinger said that he thought it was a bad idea for America to get itself involved militarily. Whilst favouring freedom of navigation in the Persian Gulf, he indicated that he was "not persuaded" that there was any threat.

"Most of the oil that comes out of the Gulf comes from Iranian ships as opposed to Kuwaiti ships," he said, further pointing out that it was Iraq not Iran which started the tanker war.

Khamene'i Addresses Friday Imams on Gulf

LD161503 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Khamene'i, president and the Friday imam of Tehran, today addressed a gathering of Friday imams of Tehran Province. He analyzed the main international political issues, as well as the current situation in the region, particularly in the Persian Gulf. He said: Kuwait vaguely believed that it could launch a decisive political move to assist Iraq by acquiring help from the superpowers or by using their flags on its ships. However, thanks to divine succor and decisiveness by the Islamic Republic of Iran, this move has brought frustration and disgrace to Kuwait and its supporters.

Referring to events in the Persian Gulf as divinely miraculous, the chairman of the Supreme Defense Council said: Should the United States resort to an act of aggression in the Persian Gulf it will certainly be vulnerable, for we have great power in the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz which enables us to prevent their military movements. The president added: In today's world, the Islamic Republic is recognized as a power capable of curtailing the superpowers' movements in the world's political arena. All the countries of the world are watching Iran's policies. We owe this to the people's firm resolve and the courage of the Islamic Republic in dealing with global issues.

In conclusion, the Friday imam of Tehran, referring to the importance and sensitive role of the Friday prayers in informing the people and increasing their religious and political awareness, stressed: The Islamic Republic of Iran has an outstanding position in the international political arena today. The Friday imams of the entire country should mobilize the popular forces to join the fronts of the imposed war in order to deliver the decisive blow to the aggressive and disintegrating regime of Saddam.

Velayati Returns From South-South Conference

LD141131 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 14 Jun 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Velayati returned to Tehran this morning after participating in the South-South conference for economic cooperation held in North Korea. Interviewed by our correspondent at Mehrabad Airport, he described the role of the Islamic Republic of Iran at the economic session of the South-South conference, saying: The session discussed cooperation of Third World countries and methods of resolving a significant proportion of their economic problems caused by the industrial countries' imposed power.

Condemning the unprincipled norms imposed on Third World countries by the industrialized countries, the foreign minister said: In order to deal with this deplorable state, the Third World countries have been making efforts for quite some time to cooperate with Nonaligned Movement members and to increase trade among themselves. The Islamic Republic of Iran, one of the true pioneers of the movement since the victory by the Islamic Revolution, was active at various levels in the Pyongyang session and made several proposals, many of which were approved at the South-South conference.

Noting his talks in Beijing with the PRC president and officials, Velayati said: During the short visit, bilateral relations and world issues [passage indistinct].

Velayati Notes PRC's Warm Welcome on 1-Day Visit

LD141552 Tehran IRNA in English 1416 GMT 14 Jun 87

[Excerpts] Tehran, June 14, IRNA — Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati arrived here Monday from the People's Republic of China (PRC) where he paid a one-day visit enroute to here from Pyongyang, Korea where he participated in the recently concluded conference on economic cooperation of South-South countries.

Speaking in a brief interview upon his arrival on the objectives of the conference, Velayati said the participants discussed economic cooperation of Third World countries, in an effort to find solutions to South-South countries economic problems, which he said are the result of policies imposed on them by industrialised states. [passage omitted]

Later in the interview Velayati referred to the stop-over of the Iranian delegation in Beijing and said despite the fact that his stop in Beijing was not an official visit, Chinese officials warmly welcomed the Iranian entourage, the best welcome out of the South-South delegations which stopped over in Beijing on enroute back to their countries.

Musavi's Damascus Visit Postponed; Al-Kasm Ill

NC170647 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Because of the illness of Syrian Prime Minister Mr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm and following an agreement between the two sides, the visit of our prime minister, Mr Musavi, to Damascus has been postponed until a date in the near future.

Mr Musavi has sent a get-well message to the Syrian prime minister through Minister of Economy and Finance Mr Iravani.

Turkish Daily Cites Musavi Remarks on Missiles

NC121145 Istanbul MILLIYET in Turkish 11 Jun 87 p 14

[M. Ali Birand column: "We Are Ready To Use the Missiles"]

[Text] In a statement to *Milliyet*, Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi has replied to the call made by President Reagan and the other participants in the industrialized countries' summit in Venice. He said: "We are determined to do the opposite of what the United States says."

Toward the end of his interview with *Milliyet*, which, in light of his visit to Turkey on Monday, centered mainly on bilateral relations between Turkey and Iran, Prime Minister Musavi discussed the situation in the Persian Gulf and the Iran-Iraq war in general. Regarding President Reagan's opposition to the installation of missiles in the Gulf region, he declared: "We are in the right and we shall continue to struggle until our right is recognized."

Asked whether Iran had installed the missiles it received from the PRC at the entrance to the Gulf, Musavi replied: "We shall use the missiles we manufactured first. We have acquired missiles from other countries as well. However, we cannot tell anyone where we have installed them. This is a secret. The United States is directly threatening Iran. We shall use these missiles when our interests in the region are threatened."

When reminded that Iran is the country that makes the greatest use of the Persian Gulf for the transportation of oil and will suffer great losses if the Gulf is closed to shipping, Musavi said: "We have prepared ourselves for every eventuality."

In addition to Prime Minister Musavi's indirect reply to the call made at the Venice summit, Iranian officials are doubtful about U.S. efforts aimed at establishing peace in the region. Describing the UN secretary general's initiatives in the Security Council as "directed toward saving Iraq," the Iranian authorities said: "We can agree if they recognize our rights; otherwise, he cannot impose anything on us, even if the entire world supports him."

Besides discussing the war situation during the 90-minute interview, Prime Minister Musavi was asked to explain what Iran expected from Turkey. He stated: "We have been explaining our views on the war, and the reasons for them, to our friends. Turkey has neighborly relations with Iran and Iraq; it is in a sensitive position regarding the war. We do not believe that Turkey tilts more toward Iraq. What disturbs us is the Iraqi oil pipeline which crosses into Turkey. We have asked other countries to side with 'justice.' We ask the same thing of Turkey."

Iran has disclosed that it undertook 30 offensives, both large and small, against Iraq in 1986. After completing the "Karbala'-10" offensive, it now seems to be preparing for a new onslaught. Western observers in Tehran have drawn attention to the dispatch of thousands of new volunteers to the battlefronts. However, they said that "no one has any idea of what is going to happen where and when."

Observers in Iran have described the halting of the "Karbala'-5" operations — which caused considerable anxiety in the Western world and in the region — immediately after the United States and the Soviet Union outlined their policies as "Iran's hesitation in the face of a joint reaction by the superpowers." Although Iran denied reports of this kind, saying that "we stopped because we had achieved our objectives," observers believe that halting the Iranian offensive only 10 km away from the city of Basra indicated a change in Iran's strategy. They also believe that Iran is now concentrating on the northern front, that is, on the Kurdish region.

Given that Iran claimed that the war would result in victory by the end of the Iranian year -- 21 March 1987 -- observers are now wondering why Iran halted its offensive against Basra inconclusively. The speaker of the Iranian Majlis, Hashemi-Rafsanjani, has made a statement to the effect that "the Iraqi regime is disintegrating from within and there is no need to attack it. Henceforth, we must incite the Iraqi people." Western and

Eastern observers have expressed the view that Iran is now cooperating with Kurdish groups in northern Iraq in order to help them set up a government in Kurdish dominated Al-Sulaymaniyah — a blow to Saddam Husayn that it failed to achieve in taking Basra.

Musavi on Bilateral Ties

NC160739 Istanbul MILLIYET in Turkish 14 Jun 87 p 10

["Exclusive" interview with Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi by *Milliyet* columnist M. Ali Birand in Tehran — date not given]

[Text] [Birand] The Iranian press and Tehran radio have been strongly criticizing Turkey and Ataturk. Naturally, Turkey is very upset by all this. Will this campaign continue, or has it come to an end?

[Musavi] Such a treacherous policy is against the two countries' interests. Our neighborly relations compel us to agree. The two countries' intellectuals must discuss political problems. (He is referring to a mutual approach by the two countries to the question of religion.) That is the correct way of dealing with the problem. Mutual accusations and the exchange of malicious remarks will only harm Turkish-Iranian relations. It is normal for the two countries to differ on ideological matters. (Actually, he used the word conflict.) Both sides' politicians and intellectuals should discuss this because we must prevent obscene and negative moves.

[Birand] Has this campaign ended?

[Musavi] We did not start the campaign. We believe the negative reports appearing in the newspapers and other media organs are not directed against Ataturk and others (a reference to the imam). They are purposely published by individuals desiring to disrupt bilateral relations.

[Birand] Just as you get upset by publications against the imam, the Turkish people are disturbed by the criticism leveled against Ataturk. And, when Tehran radio carries such attacks, it creates the impression that Iran has adopted a negative attitude toward Turkey.

[Musavi] I have investigated the question of radio broadcasts and have listened to the tape concerned. However, I heard nothing that could be described as a direct and obscene attack against any Turkish personage. This problem has been created bu rumors and propaganda generated by individuals opposed to the two countries' friendly relations.

[Birand] In the meantime, Tehran radio is continuing its broadcasts and Ataturk was openly criticized during a Friday sermon.

[Musavi] Let me give you an example of how very sensitive and careful we are in this regard. The subject of Ataturk was brought up at a Friday sermon while the situation in the region was being discussed. However, we did not allow Tehran radio to broadcast it in order to prevent a problem from developing between the two countries. We left this to the newspapers.

[Birand] Are you disturbed by the Turkish press?

[Musavi] The behavior of the Turkish press is different from what we expected. We are particularly disturbed by the obscene and immoral pictures and publications appearing in a number of your newspapers and magazines. (He is referring to the report in the weekly *Akis* magazine which dealt with Imam Khomeyni's sex life in Turkey.)

[Birand] If I am not mistaken, you believe there is a difference between "criticism" and the use of obscenities. In other words, you are saying that criticizing Iran and using obscene words against leading officials are two different things.

[Musavi] We attach great importance to moral matters. We cannot accept such behavior from an Islamic country like Turkey. We cannot expect political support from everyone. Our principles do not apply to Turkey alone, but to all our neighbors. We do not use obscene words against the leaders of these countries, a policy to which we always will adhere.

[Birand] You are drawing a line between criticism and obscenity.

[Musavi] You are an intellectual. An Islamic republic has been established in our country. The government is based upon religion. The question of nationalism is widely debated in Iran. We do not favor strengthening the feeling of nationalism — be it in Iran, in the Arab countries, or in Turkey. We do not like nationalism and prefer to prevent its expansion.

[Birand] In other words, it is not that you oppose Iranian or Turkish nationalism but that you would like all Islamic countries to unite under something else.

[Musavi] This is a very deep, ideological matter. In Iran, we see nationalism as integrated with religion. We do not accept the notion of a separation between religion and nationalism.

[Birand] As I understand it, you oppose any move that would be considered an insult against Ataturk (in the sense of obscene remarks). But, are you saying you can criticize Ataturk in that regard (from the point of view of Turkish nationalism)?

[Musavi] We can criticize Ataturk from the ideological viewpoint.

[Birand] Are you uneasy that Turkey is a secular country?

[Musavi] Iran's government is based upon religion and sect. We are convinced that other Islamic countries are worthy of such a government as well. Nevertheless, we consider the secular system in Turkey and in the other countries as a "reality."

[Birand] Your Constitution stipulates that you will spread your revolution. Does Iran favor an Islamic revolution in Turkey and the removal of the secular system? Is Iran making an effort in that regard? Turkey is concerned over reports that your country is supporting certain groups.

[Musavi] The Constitution forbids Iranian interference in the internal affairs of foreign countries. The forcible expansion of the revolution is out of the question. We are only explaining our views and trying to spread them. This cannot be regarded as interference in the internal affairs of foreign countries. For example, the Western and the Eastern countries are publicizing their ideologies; they are disseminating their own views. We are merely doing the same. We are not engaged in anything else. Our activity does not go beyond the effort made by the communists and the Western countries to spread their ideologies. We are not concerned with giving moral or material support to any specific group. I affirm that we are not supporting or encouraging any group to interfere in the internal affairs of its country.

[Birand] But our position and feelings are different. For example, will you not be disturbed if Turkish radio and television were to initiate an intensive propaganda campaign against Iran to convince the Iranian people that "secularism is an auspicious system and that a Muslim state can prosper at a faster pace as a laic country?" Will you not regard such a move as interference in your internal affairs?

[Musavi] No, we shall not be disturbed. We can reply to such claims. This type of propaganda is being broadcast by the radio networks of the Eastern and Western countries. You can do the same as well. But we shall reply to you, too. Take a look at the northern part of Iran. In addition to the radio stations in that region, five television networks are on the air as well — particularly in the Soviet Union. They are spreading propaganda in favor of governments not based upon religion. Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and a number of other countries are doing the same.

[Birand] There is a large Iranian community in Turkey. Let us consider the other side of the coin. Some Iranians in Turkey are engaged in certain activities. Are you disturbed by this state of affairs?

[Musavi] Naturally, we are disturbed by activities directed against our Islamic revolution. In view of our good-neighborly relations, we would like Turkey to put an end to these activities aimed against our regime, system, and revolution, particularly the activities in Istanbul and Van. We regard them as inauspicious for our relations and are confident the Turkish Government can stop them.

[Birand] You are aware that the PKK is active in Turkey. Turkey ocassionally retaliates by organizing military operations against Kurdish settlements in northern Iraq. The bases of the Talabani and Barzani forces, which are fighting against the Iraqi regime headed by Saddam Husayn, are located in the same region. Iran is reacting against the Turkish operations. What are you doing in connection with this situation, which is a significant problem for Turkey?

[Musavi] We have never supported the PKK. That organization does not have a base in Iran. This matter has come between the two countries as a result of rumors and propaganda. We categorically deny giving the PKK protection. What we regard as important is the weakening of the forces fighting against the Iraqi regime. We consider every move aimed at weakening them as a means of support for the Saddam regime in Iraq.

Musavi Departs on Official Visit to Turkey

NC150711 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi departed for Turkey this morning on a 2-day official visit at the head of a political-economic delegation. The group comprises the ministers of oil and heavy industries, the acting foreign minister, the chairman of the Islamic Consultative Assembly's Foreign Policy Committee, the prime minister's political deputy, and several officials and deputies from various ministries.

The report also states that Mr Musavi was seen off at Mehrabad Airport by Mr Mir-Salim, chief adviser at the Office of the Presidency, and a large number of foreign ambassadors and charges d'affaires to Iran.

Commenting on the objectives of his trip, the prime minister told our correspondent before his departure: Our relations with Turkey have been expanding in recent years. In 1360 [year ending 20 March 1981], we imported goods from Turkey in exchange for oil, and efforts were made last year to export products besides oil to that country. He added: Turkey is of great importance to us as a Muslim neighbor with common borders with both Iran and Iraq. Relations between the two countries have expanded during Mr Ozal's tenure as prime minister and numerous visits have been exchanged. Mr Musavi pointed out: During this visit, which is taking place at the official invitation of Mr Ozal, various matters -- particularly bilateral relations, regional and international issues, the imposed war, and economic issues -- will be discussed with Turkish officials.

Prime Minister Musavi Pays 2-Day Visit to Turkey

For reportage on Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi's activities in Turkey,including meetings with Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal and President Kenan Evren, see the Turkey section of the 16 June *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

Daily Attacks 'Hostile' Turkish Press Articles

LD170958 Tehran IRNA in English 0937 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Tehran, June 17, IRNA — The morning Persian daily *Jomhuri-ye Eslami* carries a front page commentary today strongly attacking the Turkish press for its 'hostile' attitude towards Iran. Excerpts:

It is a matter of surprise that the mere reference in the Iranian press to Turkey's historical realities are supposed to damage our relations with this Western neighbour but the Turkish press' clearly hostile attitude seems to have no impact on mutual ties.

It is also surprising that independent newspapers in Iran are advised by our officials to write less about the realities of Turkey but the Turkish Foreign Ministry does not feel any responsibilty vis-a-vis the propaganda, distortions and mal-intentions of the Turkish press who ignore the mutual ties, particularly at a time when Iran's prime minister is in Ankara.

And it is also astonishing that despite (Iran's) being informed of the connection of these insolent papers with the ruling (Army) generals, our volume of trade with Turkey is increasing annually and each year *Gunes*, *Hurriyet*, and *Gunaydin* become more impudent.

While the Iranian prime minister was visiting Ankara, that country's press exploited Musavi's refusal to visit the mausoleum of (Mustafa Kemal) Ataturk as a pretext to express their deepest animosity towards the Islamic revolution. It is amazing the Turkish press is trying to transform the issue as a 'breach of protocol' while no protocol was breached when the Iranian premier did not visit the Ataturk Mausoleum, even during his last visit to Turkey two years ago. Also as some sections of the Turkish press have admitted, other heads of state during their visits to Ankara, have not bothered to visit Ataturk's Mausoleum, without causing the least perturbation to the Turkish authorities.

Dictatorship dominates life in Turkey to such an extent that when the prime minister of an independent country (Iran) in accordance with his religious beliefs, refuses to visit the grave of Ataturk, he is subjected to press attacks. Is it not bullying? How much do they respect our live officials that they expect us to respect the rotten bones of their dead officials? To what extent should we expand our ties with such a country? How much does Turkey benefit from relations with us?

The Turkish press is a tame subservient to the capitalists should we purchase second-hand goods from Turkey in the name of Islamic cooperation and good neighbourliness, by the hard-earned foreign exchange we acquire under Iraqi bombardments. [sentence and punctation as received]

Perhaps if these purchases are cut for one year, the Turkish press will become more polite. The (Iranian) people no more expect a rise in figures in Iran-Turkey trade ties. Our people are fed-up of these figures, the low-quality goods of the Turks, and of the insults of that country's insolent press.

Our people are eager to know the reaction of the Turkish Foreign Ministry towards these hostile attitudes of the press. It is not convincing for them to offer lame excuses saying differences exist among political parties and that newspapers write these things instigated by the parties to pressure (Premier Turgut) Ozal.

How come that in the eye of the Turkish press and (political) parties the objection of the Iranian press to the savage behaviour of the Turkish military towards women with (Islamic) hijab is regarded as an intervention in that country's internal affairs, but their insistence that the Iranian prime minister must visit the rotten bones of Ataturk, is not interference in our affairs?

It seems that the military junta ruling Turkey has joined hands with the Zionist press to pressure Mr. Ozal who wisely values his country's relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran. This is excatly what the Zionists and the U.S. desire. It is hoped the Turkish Government will counter these plots vigilantly and deliver the Turkish press from under the yoke of Zionism.

Japanese Minister Kuranari Continues Visit

Received by Majlis Speaker

LD161148 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] This morning Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani received Mr Tadashi Kuranari, the Japanese foreign affairs minister. Stating that after Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani's visit to Japan in the summer of 1985 a new chapter opened in Iranian-Japanese relations, the Japanese foreign affairs minister conveyed warm and sincere greetings from Prime Minister Nakasone and other officials to Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani. Later, Mr Kuranari discussed bilateral relations, the Persian Gulf issue, and international matters.

Stating that Japan treats the Islamic Republic of Iran as a true friend, Mr Kuranari said with regard to the superpowers' presence in the Persian Gulf: We are opposed to the superpowers' presence in this region as it will increase tension.

Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, while welcoming the Japanese delegation,referred to the Iraqi-imposed war and said: Our people will not allow this war to end without seeing justice done. If the UN Security Council were to announce that Iraq is the aggressor and should a court be set up to investigate this aggression and punishment of the aggressor, we would (?respect) that court's verdict.

Continuing his remarks, the Majlis speaker said: We do not understand why the major states are preventing the implementation of justice. He added: The wisest solution is for the regional countries and Saddam's supporters to stop assisting Iraq; then the problem will be solved.

The speaker of the Islamic Majlis went on: More than anyone else, we desire the restoration of the region's security and we have proved this in practice. However, our nation is wondering how those whose votes counts in the world can maintain a clear conscience vis-a-vis the Iraqi regime's repeated flagrant violations. Why are these people silent? In our opinion this is a historic disgrace and history shall record it.

In conclusion, while announcing the policy of the Islamic Republic on bilateral relations and international issues, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani expressed the hope that Japan will remain a supporter of justice, as the Islamic Repulic asks for nothing more than the implementation of justice.

Terms Visit 'Positive'

LD161828 Tehran IRNA in English 1749 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Tehran, June 16, IRNA — Japanese Foreign Minister Tadashi Kuranari and his entourage left here today at the end of their two-day official visit. The delegation was seen off at the airport by Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and several Foreign Ministry officials.

In an interview prior to his departure, Kuranari described his talks with Iranian officials as "fruitful and positive".

Referring to the friendly relations between Iran and Japan, he said that his country was keen to further expand the mutual ties. He added that Iran and Japan should cooperate towards making global peace a reality and resolve problems facing the international community. Despite the differing views on certain issues, the expression of clear stands and viewpoints by itself can help improve mutual relations, he noted.

Replying to a question whether the Iraqi imposed war also figured during discussions, he merely said that they talked about all issues.

The Japanese minister met President 'Ali Khamene'i, Majlis Speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani and Foreign Minister Velayati during his stay in Iran.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Velayati said that political, economic, commercial, industrial and scientific ties between the two countries were discussed during his meetings with Kuranari and perspectives were drawn for the future. The two countries believed that commercial exchanges and industrial ties especially in the field of transfer of technology should be further increased, he disclosed.

The two counterparts also discoursed on various issue of mutual interest above all the Persian Gulf issue and security of this crucial waterway, said Velayati. Velayati informed the Japanese foreign minister of Iran's viewpoint, that Persian Gulf security should be preserved only by the littoral states. Kuranari was also against any foreign interference in the region, revealed Velayati.

During meetings with President Khamene'i and Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani important issues in connection with the region were discussed, he said.

Velayati said that the visit of the Japanese delegation was made at his long standing invitation. According to an agreement concluded between Iran and Japan two years ago, the foreign ministers of the two countries will meet annually in each other's capitals every alternate year.

Iraqi Claim of Downing F-14 Over Gulf Denied

LD162114 Tehran IRNA in English 2108 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Tehran, June 17, IRNA — Iran today categorically denied an Iraqi claim that it had shot down an Iranian F-14 over the Persian Gulf Tuesday. A spokesman for the War Information HQ. termed the claim by the Baghdad regime a mere lie and said Iraq was desperately resorting to these fabrications in a futile attempt to boost the morale of its defeated troops.

Iraq Warplanes Bomb Villages in Eastern Iraq

LD161821 Tehran IRNA in English 1758 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Orumiyeh, West Azarbayjan Prov., June 16, IRNA — Iraqi Warplanes bombed two villages, one around Kani-Masi district and the other on the outskirts of Amadiyah town in eastern Iraq, on June 5 and June 7, destroying some houses. The Iraqi regime, frightened by the insurrection of Iraqi Kurdish people in northern Iraq, has made preparations to force residents of the northern city of Zakhu, Dahuk Province, to emigrate to other parts of the country.

In another development, Peshmergas of Iraq's Patriotic Union of Kurdistan ambushed an Iraqi military unit which attempted to level to ground some villages around Bazan, northern Iraq, Monday, inflicting heavy casualties and losses on Iraqi troops and forcing the others to retreat.

Further Reportage on Sri Lankan Minister's Visit

Meets With Justice Minister

BK151120 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Text] The Sri Lankan minister for national security, Mr Lalith Athulathmudali, had a meeting with the federal minister for justice and parliamentary affairs, Mr Sajjad, in Islamabad today.

He apprised the federal minister of the judicial system, contribution of the security forces, and the parliamentary practices being observed in his country.

Mr Wasim Sajjad briefed the Sri Lankan minister about the present elected government's commitment to provide undelayed justice to the people and steps being taken in this regard.

Calls on President

BK151531 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Text] Lalith Athulathmudali, the visiting Sri Lankan minister for national security, called on President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Islamabad today.

He thanked the president for Pakistan's continuous support for Sri Lanka's unity and territorial integrity.

He also apprised the president of his talks with the Pakistani minister for interior and justice, Mr Wasim Sajjad, which focused on mutual cooperation in the area of narcotics control.

The president expressed the hope that cooperation between the two countries in the social, economic, and cultural fields will be enhanced as a result of increasing high-level contacts.

Meets With Prime Minister

BK160238 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Sri Lankan National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali called on Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo in Rawalpindi yesterday and apprised the latter of his country's situation and the steps being taken for a peaceful solution of national issues.

The prime minister said that Pakistan respects Sri Lanka's sovereignty and national integration and wishes all-round success to its government and people.

The Sri Lankan minister also met with Minister of State for Defense Rana Naim Mahmud Khan in Islamabad and exchanged views with him on various issues of regional cooperation, especially those relating to SAARC.

He expressed satisfaction with the cooperation between Pakistan and Sri Lanka, particularly in the trade sector.

Delhi Cites Opposition's Wali Khan on AWACS

BK151418 Delhi General Overseas Service in English
1330 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Text] In Pakistan, the leader of the opposition National Awami Party, Khan Abdul Wali Khan, has said that America wants to install AWACS radar planes on Pakistan territory for spying into neighboring country. In an interview with the daily *Jang*, Mr Khan said Pakistan does not need the plane. He said introduction of sophisticated weapons will create more tension in the region.

MUSLIM Criticizes Dobrynin's Remarks on Kashmir

BK121242 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English
28 May 87 p 4

[Editorial: "Violating the Spirit of Vladivostok"]

[Text] In marked contrast to the responsible tone sounded on the region by Mikhail Gorbachev during his Delhi visit last year, the secretary of the Soviet Communist Party, Anatoliy Dobrynin has said that Moscow considers the valley of Jammu and Kashmir as an integral part of India. Mr Dobrynin's statement recalls Moscow's stance in the immediate post-1954 period when Soviet officials made similar utterances, ostensibly in retaliation against Pakistan's association with Western-sponsored military pacts. At the time, the Soviet position followed Delhi's repudiation of the plebiscite issue in Kashmir in flagrant violation of UN resolutions on the principle of self-determination for the people of Kashmir. It is hard to understand what has prompted a senior Soviet official to reiterate this position at this juncture. It is even harder to understand this in the context of Mr Gorbachev's new Asia initiatives for peace.

When Mr. Gorbachev visited Delhi last year, his stance on regional peace and remarks about Pakistan were widely applauded, and also appreciated by Islamabad. That visit was seen to have had a sobering influence on Delhi, whose sabre rattling mood toward Pakistan was evidenced in "Operation Brasstacks." Indeed Mr Gorbachev's enunciation of his new Asia policy at Vladivostok, last July, had inspired much hope. In his Vladivostok speech, the Soviet leader had vowed to improve relations with every country in Asia and the Pacific, and the vigorous Soviet diplomacy that subsequently followed in the region looked like steps in the right direction. Mr Dobrynin's statement, however, seems to run both against the spirit of Vladivostok, and Mr Gorbachev's Delhi Declaration. The most important change that was perceived about Mr Gorbachev's new Asia policy by many Pakistanis was that for the first time Moscow had stopped looking at Pakistan through Delhi's eyes. But Mr Dobrynin's Kashmir statement now suggests otherwise. The Soviet leadership should realise, as indeed Mr Gorbachev earlier seemed to have done, that friendship with one country in the region at the expense of another is not the way to ensure regional peace. Moscow needs to learn from its past mistakes in the region. By taking the position Mr Dobrynin has done on Kashmir — an issue that remains firmly and fervently embedded in Pakistani popular consciousness — Moscow adopts a partisan position that violates the spirit of Vladivostok.

Foreign Minister Departs for Delhi SAARC Meeting

BK160854 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0831 GMT 16 Jun 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, June 16 (*Lanka Puwath*) — A.C. Shahul Hameed, Sri Lankan minister of foreign affairs, left this afternoon to attend the third session of the SAARC Council of Ministers which will be held in New Delhi on 18th and 19th June, 1987. A press release issued by the Foreign Ministry in Colombo this afternoon states that the meeting of the Council of Ministers will be preceded by the meeting of the Standing Committee on 16th and 17th June. The Programming Committee had already met on 14th and 15th June.

The Council of Ministers will consider a number of recommendations made by the (?committees) with regard to the SAARC integrated programme of action as well as certain new areas of SAARC activities, which will include the establishment of a South Asian food security reserve. The ministers are also expected to finalise the rules of procedure for SAARC meetings.

Editorial Scores Government on Attending SAARC

BK151455 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 1405 GMT 15 Jun 87

[From the "Press Roundup"; "OANA/pool" item]

[Text] *The Island* in an editorial captioned "Stand Up to Big Brother" comments: "It will be one of the rare moments of supreme irony in contemporary history when Sri Lanka sits down with fellow members of South Asian nations -- India presiding to discuss regional cooperation at the forthcoming foreign minsters' meeting of SAARC. A country which only a few weeks ago had its air space violated in the most brazen manner will be sitting down for talks on regional cooperation at a meeting chaired by a foreign minister of a country which has been responsible for such bellicose acts".

However, Indian bellicosity continues. There are reports of military maneuvres in South India and flight of Indian reconnaisance planes over Sri Lankan territory. India is continuing to insist on forced food aid to the Jaffna Peninsula. In the face of this belligerence what is behind Sri Lanka's decision to participate at the SAARC foreign ministers meeting?

If Sri Lanka hopes that it can come to terms with India the most fundamental issue has to be settled: Sri Lanka must at the SAARC meeting insist that India's continued assistance in various forms, including arms, to northern terrorists must stop. Indian apologists will be quick to point out that according to the Dhaka Declaration "bilateral and contentious issues" would be excluded from the organisation deliberations. But one of the fundamental objectives specified in the Dhaka Declaration is "to contribute to mutual trust, understanding, and appreciation of one another's problems" surely there could be no better proviso under which to discuss the problem that exists between Sri Lanka and India.

There is also the "Bangalore Declaration" opposing terrorism. Discussion of this declaration against terrorism is on the agenda of the forthcoming foreign minister's meeting. The Bangalore Declaration which was adopted at the last summit meeting of SAARC leaders specifically states that each member country should refrain from "organising, instigating, assisting or participating in acts of civil strife or terrorist acts in another state" with each country submitting its definition of "terrorism" at the forthcoming meeting. Sri Lanka should press strongly for its definition of terrorism. India's definition would undoubtedly make Velupillai Prabhakaran and his mass killers appear as Gandhian apostles of non-violence.

Vacillations in the past have given the impression to New Delhi that Sri Lanka is a client state so much so that it can force food down unwilling Sri Lankan throats. This is an issue which Sri Lanka has to stand firm and state quite clearly that we are by far capable of feeding our own people. If there are any shortages of food in Jaffna the situation should be remedied and international observers invited — not some Delhi-Wallahs whose government cannot feed its 10 million beggars in the foreseeable future.

We are by no means advocating a military confrontation with India or saying that we could come on top in a protracted guerrilla war. The point that is being made is that India too is subject to severe constraints, political, military, financial, and international. Sri Lanka while being absolutely fair by India should by no means be cowed down by threats.

'Massive Hauls' of Arms, Explosives Seized

BK171147 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] The Security Forces yesterday made a two massive hauls of explosives and other logistics from Tamil terrorists in northern and eastern Sri Lanka. Official sources told *Lanka Puwath* that in the seas north of Velvettiturai a naval patrol captured a motorized vallam [boat] and seized 8,000 kg of gelignite and 50 kg of metal pellets used for landmine. The gelignite was packed in 331 plastic cans each containing 24 kg. There were also a number of other items, including 180 meters of khaki cloth of the type used for army uniforms and woolen socks. As the Sri Lankan naval patrol boat approached the vallam, the crew had abandoned it. Official sources said that the number of the captured items have been identified as being of Indian manufacture.

The Security Forces met with another major success early yesterday morning when they raided one of the largest ever explosive factories in the Eastern Province, a few miles south of Trincomalee. Two terrorists were killed when they tried to resist the Security Forces who captured a very large cache of arms, ammunition, explosive devices, self-loading rifles, shotguns, and rocket-propelled grenades.